

Israel rejects call for U.N. session

TEL AVIV (AP) — Israeli officials Tuesday rejected a Soviet suggestion that the U.N. Security Council hold an informal discussion on Israel's plan for elections in the occupied territories. The rejection came as reports circulated here that the United States is giving serious consideration to the proposal. Yossi Ben Aharon, political adviser to Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, told Israel Radio that a U.N. discussion could undermine the plan because it "is likely to tip the idea in the bud." "The problem isn't getting international support for our proposal," he said in an interview with army radio. "We just don't want others to torpedo it. The issue is to obtain partners in the field." Other officials and news analysts noted that Israel has rejected calls by the Soviets and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) for an international peace conference on the Middle East. The Soviet call for a Security Council discussion appears to be a backdoor way of getting an international forum, they said. The Soviets reported called for the U.N. discussion at a weekend meeting in Washington, D.C., between several Soviet Foreign Ministry officials and Dennis Ross, the head of the State Department's policy planning staff.

Jordan Times

An independent political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية مستقلة عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية، والرأي

Morocco refuses Polisario offer

GENEVA (R) — Morocco has rejected a Red Cross offer to repatriate 200 prisoners after Polisario guerrillas agreed to their release, a spokesman for the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) said Tuesday. The news came on the eve of a United Nations mission to Morocco aiming to end a 13-year war. "The ICRC offered its services to Morocco and Polisario for the prisoners' repatriation but Morocco declined the offer on the grounds that it did not form part of the United Nations peace plan," the ICRC's Jurg Blaser told Reuters. The two sides, fighting over the disputed Western Sahara, have agreed to solve their dispute through a U.N.-sponsored referendum. The Polisario said they timed the release to create an atmosphere of peace for a visit to Rabat by U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar. The U.N. chief met King Hassan Tuesday to promote his peace plan. The ICRC spokesman said he hoped their meeting could solve the prisoner problem, but added: "At this stage all we can do is to renew our offer of services."

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Army blows up 3 W.Bank homes

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Israeli troops Tuesday blew up the homes of three Palestinians overnight for allegedly killing a Jewish settler in the occupied West Bank.

A Jewish settler armed with an Uzi submachine gun opened fire on a group of Palestinians waiting at a major intersection near Tel Aviv, police said.

Two Palestinians were wounded in the attack, one of them seriously. The 23-year-old assailant was apprehended after being chased by police and local residents.

Settlers shouting for blood mobbed Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir Tuesday at the funeral of the settler whose body was found Sunday.

About 500 mourners chanting "revenge" and "traitor" drowned out most of Shamir's speech at the graveside of settler Friedrich Rosenfeld, stabbed Sunday as he walked alone in the hills outside the West Bank Jewish settlement of Ariel.

Three Palestinian shepherds were arrested overnight by agents of the Shin Bet service in connection with the stabbing death, sources said.

The army Tuesday blew up the homes of the three suspects, who are from the nearby village of Burkin, Israel Radio said. The names of the suspects have not yet been released.

Amran Mitzna, the outgoing West Bank army commander, said the Palestinian suspects "confessed" to the killing, but he gave no clue for the motive.

Also Tuesday, a 27-year-old Palestinian suspected of collaborating with Israel was stabbed to death in the Gaza Strip town of Khan Yunis, Arab and Israeli news reports said. The victim was identified as Fahad Fawzi Madi.

Another Palestinian, Samir Mohammad Antiz, 19, was found dead in his tent at the Ketzioh detention centre in the Naqeeb

desert, where he had been held without charges since last February, an army spokesman said.

The army sealed the homes of two other Palestinians in Ramallah, including one man who allegedly confessed to firebombing an Israeli car transporting voters through Arab Jerusalem to cast ballots on election day last November, the radio said.

New commanders named

Israel has appointed a new commander over the occupied West Bank, Major-General Yitzhak Mordechai, who brings a hardline reputation to the toughest job in the Israeli army.

Iraqi-born Mordechai, 44, succeeds Mitzna; an avowed "Liberal" accused by Israeli critics of being "too soft" on an 18-month-old uprising.

The army, announcing the new posting Monday, said Major-General Matan Vilnai, 45, the outgoing army manpower director, would take Mordechai's place as commander over the occupied Gaza Strip.

Unlike in the West Bank, Mordechai has imposed a blanket Gaza curfew for days at a time, punishing all for the protests of a few. Also in Gaza, more Arabs have been wounded daily per capita in street battles with troops.

After three years in Gaza, Mordechai now takes over what Israeli military says is the most problematic posting of the army.

In 1985 Mordechai, a former chief paratrooper and infantry officer, was acquitted of charges he pistol-whipped to death one of two Palestinians killed in custody after hijacking an Israeli bus in 1984.

A later investigation found Shin Bet lied about its responsibility for the deaths. Mordechai said in April the

Israeli army would fight Palestinian protesters untiringly and "we will act as if the intifada is going to last for 100 years."

Egypt voices concern

Egypt condemned Tuesday Israel's clampdown on the uprising in occupied territories and conveyed its concern to the Zionist state and the United States.

Foreign Minister Esmat Abdul Meguid told reporters Cairo's position after meeting with U.S. Ambassador Frank G. Wisner.

Also, the ministry summoned Shimon Shamir, Israel's ambassador, who heard Egypt's complaints from Aziz Seif Al Nasr, an assistant to Abdul Meguid. Shamir did not speak to reporters.

Appearing with Abdul Meguid, ambassador Wisner urged quick action towards an Arab-Israeli political settlement "before violence destroys all the prospects of peace."

Wisner said the United States shares the concern of Egypt over the situation in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza.

But while Abdul Meguid criticized Israeli harshness, Wisner spoke only of "rising violence" in the occupied territories without singling out either side.

The United States has used its Security Council veto in the United Nations at least twice to reject resolutions criticizing Israel for often brutal handling of the uprising. Washington said the resolutions lacked balance because they criticized only Israel.

What we are seeing in the occupied Arab lands in terms of action against the uprising cannot be accepted under any circumstances," Abdul Meguid said.

"We consider the uprising a popular movement by the Palestinian people to achieve their legitimate rights. To confront this movement with violence is something that we reject totally."



Troops march in close order in Peking's Tiananmen Square. The square was the scene of the June 3 army assault on pro-democracy protesters.

Peking blasts U.S., other 'foreign plotters'

PEKING (Agencies) — Peking Radio charged Tuesday that reactionaries in the United States, Canada, Hong Kong and Macao supported and helped plot the student-led democracy movement in China.

It quoted a Peking professor as saying Washington played "an inglorious role" in plotting mass demonstrations which sparked the biggest political crisis in 40 years of Chinese Communist rule.

It also announced the arrest of Liu Gang, 28, who was high on a nationwide "wanted" list of 21 alleged student leaders.

The supreme court has issued orders to all lower courts to "severely punish counterrevolutionary elements who have been charged."

The People's Broadcasting radio station quoted the court as calling for swift action against those who incited social unrest or participated in a riot and in-

creased staffs to deal with the heavy case loads.

More than 1,360 people have been reported arrested since Chinese cities erupted in protest following the June 3-4 military crackdown on the democracy movement in Peking that left thousands dead and injured.

The supreme court advised that those who surrender or report the crimes of others should be given lenient treatment.

Premier Li Peng, in remarks Monday, said "counterrevolutionary unrest" had been put down, but "quite a lot of rioters are yet to be apprehended," the official Xinhua news agency reported. "We can in no way leave them unpunished and let them stage a comeback."

State Radio on Tuesday, quoting a letter from the unnamed professor, said the recent turmoil in China was caused by "very small cliques who hate our country" and was "supported, encour-

aged and plotted by reactionary forces abroad."

In went on: "Hong Kong and Macao forces have for a long time engaged in reactionary propaganda..."

"Some illegal organizations... based in Canada and the United States spared no effort to encourage this movement."

"The United States which claimed during this movement to be friendly to China played an inglorious role."

"Fang Lizhi (China's top dissident now sheltering in the American embassy) and his like got encouragement and support from the United States. This is a fact known to all."

"American embassy staff and journalists were constant visitors to Fang's house," the letter went on. "Student movement leader Wang Dan always followed Fang Lizhi and (his wife) Li Shuxian."

"Fang Lizhi ran away to seek refuge in the U.S. embassy, and the Americans received him, so people have reason to suspect that Americans plotted this large-scale counter-revolutionary chaos."

Echoing a constant theme in Chinese media since President George Bush denounced the June 4 army crackdown and Fang took shelter in the embassy, the radio added:

"America thinks it's the country to spread democracy and freedom, and for many years has interfered in the affairs of other countries over human rights."

"Every day South Korea suppresses a student movement but America does not interfere and in fact stations troops there," it went on.

"Israel every day suppresses Palestinians' just struggles and America is Israel's patron..."

"The South African government engaged in large-scale repression of blacks, yet is America's

support for this reactionary government small?"

Chinese guards Tuesday turned away droves of Peking citizens queuing for visas to go abroad.

It followed a bureaucratic decision which effectively seals China's borders to anyone who took part in the recent protests.

People outside the U.S. embassy said rules effective from Tuesday meant that a person wishing to leave China must show a letter from a supervisor certifying their political purity.

"Your (Communist) party boss, head of your work unit, school or street committee supervisor has to approve you," said one student outside the American mission.

"But I don't think they would give clearance if they knew you took part in even one demonstration."

"They would not want to take responsibility for making a mistake," she added.

Fateh reviews its Mideast strategy

TUNIS (R) — The leadership of the mainstream Palestinian movement Fateh, in advance of its first congress for nine years, is holding a through closed-doors review of its Middle East strategy.

Fateh's 10-man Central Committee, chaired by Yasser Arafat, and the larger Revolutionary Council began the meetings in Tunis last Friday and will have further sessions this week to decide on the date for the congress, officials said Tuesday.

The agenda includes Israel's plan for elections in the occupied territories, the intifada in the territories and internal reorganization, they said.

The congress, which groups some 400 members from across the Arab World and beyond, will probably take place within a month, Fateh sources said.

The congress has the power to elect a new central committee and Arafat could use the occasion to push through changes in the

leadership, the sources added. The last congress of Fateh, the largest group in the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), took place in Damascus in April and May 1980. More than half the current members of the Central Committee have been there since the 1960s.

Fateh covers a wide range of opinions and there has been internal resistance to some of the policy changes Arafat has made in an attempt to break the deadlock in the Middle East.

Arafat last December recognised Israel's right to exist, renounced terrorism and accepted two crucial U.N. resolutions. In Paris in May, he declared null and void the Palestine national charter.

The PLO has set conditions for taking part in elections in the occupied territories but Arafat is looking for ways to exploit Israel's election proposal without making concessions.

All saved from listing Soviet liner

OSLO (AP) — A Soviet Ocean liner carrying more than 950 passengers and crew members hit an iceberg and began listing in the Norwegian sea. All the passengers and some of the crew from lifeboats, ice floes and the stricken vessel by a coast guard ship and helicopter.

No casualties were reported in the rescue of the 196 metre Maxim Gorky, which radioed for help late Monday and was reported in danger of sinking Tuesday.

Rescue efforts were aided by the 24-hour summer daylight of the Arctic.

A pump being used to keep the ship afloat failed Tuesday, but new pumps brought in later apparently staved off a sinking. Some 250 crew members were still on board the ship, an official said.

There were conflicting counts of the passengers, all of them West European tourists.

The German travel agency Phoenix Flugreisen of Bonn, which managed the cruise, said 551 Germans and 16 other West Europeans were aboard and that a plane was being sent to pick them up.

The Norwegian news agency said there were 576 passengers from Germany, Holland, Austria, Britain, Italy, Switzerland and Sweden.

The rescue centre said it had received conflicting figures, but estimated 575 passengers and 379 crew.

None of the passengers were reported missing or injured.

West German passenger Winfried Prince told the U.S. television network NBC in a radio-telephone interview Tuesday that all aboard the ship remained calm.

"There was no panic at all," the passenger said. "All passengers have been extremely quiet."

Outcome of elections triggers Greek crisis

ATHENS (Agencies) — The prospect of a political crisis and new elections loomed here Tuesday as conservative leader Constantine Mitsotakis was given three days to form a government, only hours after a Communist alliance rejected his coalition offer.

In a rare coincidence of views Mitsotakis's New Democracy Party and the Communist dominated leftist alliance, who together won nearly 60 per cent of Sunday's vote, agree the primary objective of a new government must be to punish those responsible for the massive scandals of the defeated Socialist administration of Premier Andreas Papandreu.

Mitsotakis won first place with 44.29 per cent of the vote and 144 seats falling short of an overall majority. He offered to form a coalition with the Communists, but they refuse to cooperate either with him or Papandreu.

If, as appears likely, a coalition proves impossible, there is no alternative to new elections under the constitution.

But such a development could result in the inability of parliament, as the only competent body under the constitution, to investigate and order the prosecution of members of the Socialist government.

In what constitutional experts see as an insoluble wrangle, the

new parliament would lose its power to order an investigation if it is dissolved and new elections are ordered because of the inability of the political parties to form a government.

"I can assure you there will be catharsis," Mitsotakis told a news conference after President Christos Sartzetakis gave him the mandate to form a government.

"All future developments must be based on the need for catharsis. A solution has to be found as soon as possible, to allow parliament to investigate the scandals and to initiate prosecutions," he added.

He did not indicate how he might overcome the Communists' refusal to join him in a coalition.

If he fails to form a government, the mandate will be given to Papandreu whose Pannellenic Socialist Movement (Pasok) came second with 125 seats.

Papandreu, who remains as caretaker prime minister, also wooed the Communists Tuesday, emphasising again that the combined Pasok-Communist forces have 154 seats in parliament.

"The Greek people gave the majority of its vote to the democratic and progressive forces, and barred the return of the right and conservatism to power," he told reporters.



Constantine Mitsotakis

"These forces have the obligation to rule the country and this is a clear and unquestioned mandate of the Greek people," he said. He ruled out any cooperation with new democracy.

Communist Party leader Harilaos Florakis has ruled out joining a New Democracy coalition, or the Socialists as long as Papandreu or anyone associated with the scandals leads Pasok.

"The alliance has its own proposal which excludes Papandreu since we believe a coalition government must consist of honest people without personal or political responsibilities (for the scandals)," he said.

The Communist alliance, with 29 seats in parliament, would try to form a government if neither Mitsotakis or Papandreu succeeded, he said.

3 killed, 50 injured in fresh Soviet ethnic unrest

MOSCOW (Agencies) — At least three people have been killed and more than 50 injured in five days of brawling, arson and rioting spawned by ethnic and economic frustrations in the central Republic of Kazakhstan, authorities said Tuesday.

Hundreds of Interior Ministry soldiers and extra police were sent to Novy Uzen, a city of about 55,000 people near the Caspian Sea, and a curfew was imposed to restore order, Interior Ministry spokesman Boris Mikhailov said in a news briefing.

It was the third violent outburst of ethnic tension and economic frustration in six weeks in the vast central region of the Soviet Union.

In the worst violence, about

100 people were killed earlier this month in the Fergana Valley of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

The traditionally Muslim region is being buffeted by a rapidly increasing population and a lack of jobs, devastating pollution, an increase in ethnic feelings and a resurgence of Islam.

A man who answered the telephone at an emergency headquarters set up in Novy Uzen said a 9 p.m.-6 a.m. curfew had been imposed. The man, who identified himself only as Murzagalev, said there had been a demonstration Tuesday but refused to give more details.

Mikhailov said that since the beginning of the violence Friday night, preliminary information indicated three people had died and

53 were hurt. He did not identify the dead or injured, or say how they died.

Fifty-seven people were arrested, he said.

A crowd of about 1,000 people rampaged through the streets, burning cars and smashing shop windows in protest at food shortages and the high prices at cooperative food shops run by immigrants from the Caucasus region.

"They were shouting 'close the cooperatives' and 'Transcaucasians go home,'" Mikhailov said.

Police fired shots in the air to disperse the crowds, he added. After an apparent lull, the situation deteriorated sharply Sunday, with renewed fighting between Uzbeks and Transcaucasians.

A crowd 200-strong surrounded the Communist Party headquarters Sunday night and began throwing stones at police. TASS news agency reported that tear-gas canisters were fired to disperse them.

That same evening, police and troops evacuated about 700 Transcaucasians, mainly women and children, from Novy Uzen to a bus station outside the city. All roads leading to the station were sealed off to protect them from attack.

The clashes continued Monday. According to Mikhailov, two battalions of Interior Ministry troops — about 800 men — were sent to the city to restore order. The troubles did not appear to

be over. "There are still several hotbeds of tension in the region," a government spokesman in the Kazakh capital, Alma Ata, told Reuters by telephone Tuesday.

A police spokesman contacted in Novy Uzen itself, however, said the security forces had the situation under control.

The authorities are clearly anxious to avoid a replay of the Uzbek clashes, in which 99 people were killed.

Most of the victims there were Meskhetian Turks, a community deported en masse from their homeland in the Transcaucasian Republic of Georgia in 1944 by Josef Stalin. About 300,000 of them live in central Asia.

ملكوته من الله

Sudanese chant support for ousted Numeiri

KHARTOUM (Agencies) — Hundreds of stone-throwing protesters chanted support in Khartoum for former Sudanese President Jaafar Numeiri to return to power.

Witnesses said demonstrators attacked shops and shouted "Numeiri will return" in the city centre Monday in a protest at food and transport shortages under the rule of Prime Minister Sadeq Al Mahdi.

The protesters dispersed without incident when riot police arrived, the witnesses told Reuters.

Numeiri, in a radio interview in Egypt Monday with the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC), said he had nothing to do with a coup plot crushed Sunday by the armed forces.

But he added that he stood by a remark made a few days earlier that he would return to power in two to four weeks.

Numeiri, overthrown in 1985 by a military coup after 16 years in power, said several army officers had visited him at his home in Cairo.

Sudan's SUNA news agency said Numeiri was the family name of three suspected plotters arrested Sunday, the day before rebels were to ring parliament with tanks and kill leading politicians as Mahdi made a speech.

Newspapers quoted military sources as saying several relatives of Numeiri were among the 48 civilians arrested. Six brigadiers and two colonels were among 14 army officers detained.

Mahdi said on television Monday that Numeiri was a spent political force. He repeated requests that Egypt extradite him to stand trial for charges carrying the death penalty.

Sudan says Numeiri was behind a coup plot foiled six months ago. Egypt has refused

to hand him back and Sudanese newspapers Tuesday suggested that Cairo may have been involved in the latest plot.

Arab and Western diplomats said it was unlikely that Egypt played any role, if only because Numeiri did not seem on the point of staging a comeback.

"Numeiri can hardly be the horse you bet on," said a diplomat. "Those (protesters) in Sudan who chant 'Numeiri will return,' are doing it out of despair."

Monday's protest in Khartoum was the third in a week in which Numeiri's name was shouted.

Mahdi's government is facing a growing economic crisis with annual inflation of 80 per cent and large budget deficits.

A civil war against the Sudan People's Liberation Army, seeking to end what it sees as domination of the south by the north, is a further drain on resources.

The independent Al Sudani daily said three army units had been due to stage the coup Monday.

Tanks were to shell parliament in Khartoum's twin city of Omdurman and troops would then have stormed it and killed those inside.

Mahdi said the coup attempt aimed at "manslaughter in parliament" and at "uprooting the democratic system in Sudan and serve the strategies of other countries."

Mahdi did not name such countries but he was highly critical of the "feverish activities of the bloodthirsty Numeiri in Egypt."

He told the Sudanese parliament that his government "will promptly and harshly deal with this coup attempt... whatever be the price."

Also in Khartoum, Abdul Rahman Faraha, security advisor to the prime minister, said

that 80 military men and 48 civilians were arrested in connection with the coup attempt.

Faraha said the government's decision to shut down until the end of June a Nile River port bordering Egypt was to prevent the "activities of Numeiri and his stooges" which had started in the southern Egyptian city of Aswan. He did not elaborate.

Military involvement

Egypt's Middle East News Agency (MENA) reported Tuesday that Sudanese security officials said 19 tanks as well as paratroopers and air defence service personnel were to have joined in the foiled coup.

A MENA dispatch from Khartoum quoted the security officials, who were not identified further, as saying the plotters had been under government surveillance for as long as three years.

Security has been tightened at Sudanese airports and sea ports to prevent the escape of alleged plotters still at large, Faraha told the Egyptian agency. He said arrests were continuing but did not say how many were in custody.

Security officials said officers involved ranked from major to brigadier and that the plotters also included 15 retired military men.

The officials, who said plotters had "large financing" from unspecified external and domestic sources, said the plan had been for the plotters to strike Monday morning, Numeiri was to have arrived in Khartoum that afternoon.

Numeiri told the AP Monday that Mahdi's government "invented" the coup plot story to divert the Sudanese people's attention from their problems.

MENA quoted the security officials as saying that some plotters had met with Numeiri in Cairo after travelling from Sudan purportedly on business or to seek medical care.



HOPES IN THE SKY — Children in east Beirut fly kites. Despite a shaky ceasefire which ended eight weeks of cross city bombardment, schools have been closed for fear that fighting may flare up any minute.

Hamas accuses Israel of torturing its jailed leader

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — An Islamic group in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip has accused Israel of torturing its jailed spiritual leader.

Israel arrested Sheikh Ahmad Yassin, 51, at his Gaza house in a roundup last month of 250 alleged leaders of Hamas, the Islamic Resistance Movement. All are suspected of fomenting the uprising in the occupied territories.

Hamas also urged Palestinians under occupation to stage a general strike next Saturday in protest at an Israeli soldier's use of pages of a Koran as toilet paper.

"We call on you to protest about the Israeli practices and the way they attack the honour of your people's religion and to protest at the mass arrests, especially of Sheikh Ahmad Yassin, who is crippled and suffers from torture in his detention," a Hamas leaflet said. It did not elaborate.

Yassin, confined in a wheel-

chair since childhood, was taken days after his arrest to an Israeli hospital suffering from a lung infection, sources said.

He has supported armed struggle against Israel and condoned the killing of Palestinians who helped the Israeli occupation authorities.

Palestinians say Hamas was largely behind a surge of Gaza violence before Yassin's arrest. Israel's cabinet Sunday outlawed it as a "terrorist" group.

The army reprimanded the soldier who used pages of the Koran as toilet paper in the Arab village of Tel Ballut last month. An army spokesman said the soldier admitted he made a mistake.

The new leaflet also called for a general strike July 9 to mark the start of the 20th month of the uprising.

Hizbollah reaction

In Beirut, the pro-Iranian Hizbollah, Party of God, Tuesday

condemned the ban imposed by the Israeli government on Islamic fundamentalist organisations.

"Accusing revolutionary Muslims of terrorism by the Zionists is evidence that they have been a cause of worry for Israel which is the source of terrorism," Hizbollah said in a statement.

Hizbollah has taken credit for several attacks against Israeli troops in Israel's self-designated "security zone" in South Lebanon. Israel has occupied the border zone since 1985, when it withdrew the bulk of its forces ending a three-year invasion.

The Israeli cabinet Sunday decided to outlaw the Lebanese Hizbollah and Islamic Jihad as well as Hamas.

Hizbollah is believed to sponsor its own underground Islamic Jihad in Lebanon. But the Lebanese chapter, blamed for the kidnapping of several foreigners including two Americans that still are held hostage, is not linked to the one in Gaza.

OIC rejects Manila bill

NICOSIA (Agencies) — The Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) has told the Philippines a draft law creating an autonomous region for Muslims was unacceptable.

OIC Secretary-General Hamid Al Gabid met Philippine Foreign Minister Raul Manglapus in Jeddah Monday to discuss the plan to grant Muslims self-rule in the southern island of Mindanao.

Gabid, in a statement sent to Reuters in Nicosia, said Manila must revive a dialogue with the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF).

He said the bill, passed by congress in April and due to be signed into law soon by President Corason Aquino, failed to recognise the MNLF as the official representative of the Muslims. The front has said it would reject any autonomy law it had not

helped to draft.

At least 50,000 people died in fighting between the front and troops in the early 1970s. The MNLF has tried unsuccessfully for years to become a full member of the OIC.

Manglapus was due in Riyadh Wednesday for what one embassy official described as a goodwill trip. Ties between Saudi Arabia and the Philippines were strained for more than a year over allegations that some Philippine maids working in the Kingdom had been ill-treated.

Manila imposed a ban last year on sending maids to several Gulf states after reports of abuse and inhumane treatment. The ban has later lifted.

Some 300,000 Philippine nationals work in Saudi Arabia, mainly as servants or labourers. In his meeting with Gabid,

Manglapus explained that the Manila plan, known as the Organic Act, "reflects the manner in which the Philippines government envisages implementing the Tripoli agreement on the basis of the new constitution..."

Gabid reaffirmed the OIC position that "full application" of the agreement was the "sole basis" for solving the problem.

The Tripoli agreement, signed in 1975 under the aegis of the OIC, provided for full autonomy for the 13 Muslim-dominated states in the southern Philippines.

The OIC arranged for representatives of Aquino to meet with the MNLF but her government failed to meet all the Muslim demands.

Gabid told Manglapus the OIC could not back Manila because the government had failed to abide by the Tripoli agreement.

U.S. has doubts on military victory for Afghan rebels

By Steve Holland
Reuters

WASHINGTON — Four months after U.S. officials predicted confidently that rebels would soon topple the Communist government of Afghanistan, Washington increasingly doubts that a military victory is possible.

As a result, the administration of President George Bush is shifting emphasis to pursuing a political settlement with the threat of more combat as leverage.

"What we have now is a situation of flux in which the United States has increasingly begun to doubt whether a military solution is possible but is not ready to give up that solution entirely," said Selig Harrison, an Afghan expert at the independent Carnegie Endowment for International Peace.

Harrison said that in his conversations with U.S. officials, "there's no question that the confidence in a military victory" is on the wane.

U.S. officials had forecast military victory for the American-backed Mujahedeen rebels within six to 12 months when the Soviet Union completed its withdrawal from Afghanistan in mid-February, ending its nine-year intervention.

They believed the Afghan army suffered from poor morale due to an unbroken series of defeats and would fold

quickly in the face of the rebels' superior numbers.

But the army has proved to be much tougher than believed and still controls 27 of 31 provincial capitals.

The rebels, who succeeded against mobile Soviet forces by using deft hit-and-run tactics in the countryside, are finding it difficult to make progress in conventional warfare against an Afghan army well entrenched in static positions in major cities.

Their campaign to capture the cities and ultimately Kabul has been mired for weeks at the strategic eastern town of Jalalabad.

Government troops have successfully held off the guerrillas with superior firepower in tanks, fighter bombers and artillery, which the Soviets keep in constant supply.

Experts say the rebels are deeply split over whether to pursue a military victory, with a high cost in suffering for fellow Afghans, or move towards a political compromise that they so far have ruled out.

"The frontal attack against Jalalabad was a major error," said Zalmay Khalilzad, a former U.S. State Department official now with the Rand Corporation. "The Mujahedeen were neither armed nor coordinated for conventional war."

Mujahedeen commanders had not reached agreement on

a joint battle campaign across the country, allowing government forces to concentrate resources defending Jalalabad, Khalilzad said.

The United States and Pakistan are pressing for a political solution in which Afghan President Najibullah would leave and negotiations then would start on the makeup of a non-aligned government broadly representing the Afghan people.

But Najibullah says he will not quit and will insist on a role in Afghan politics for his ruling People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan (PDPA), an idea the rebels reject out of hand.

Afghan expert Harrison said that both the Kabul government and the rebels' interim government based in Peshawar, Pakistan, are inherently flawed because of identification with either the Soviet Union, the United States or Pakistan. Khalilzad said the rebels' interim government has alienated many Afghans and does not have the support of many key commanders who control forces and territory.

Harrison said he believed Moscow was no ready to support a peaceful transfer of power in Afghanistan once a broad-based transitional government is formed.

He said Moscow would insist that the communists be recognised as a legitimate participant in future elections.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:
Dr. Issam Hawarneh 624830
Dr. Walid Al Masri 675485
Dr. Mohammad Al Sawwa 725056
Dr. Jassim Marqat 770046
Firas pharmacy 661912
Ferdows pharmacy 778336
Al Asema pharmacy 637055
Najmouk pharmacy 636730
Al Saban pharmacy 644945
Shmeisani pharmacy 637660

JERUSALEM:
Dr. Radwan Al Saad (—)
Al Sharaa pharmacy (985238)

ZARQA:
Dr. Hisham Hiyassat 982440

EMERGENCIES

Civil Defence Department 661111
Civil Defence Emergency 630341
Rescue 199
Fire Brigade 611228
Blood Bank 775121
Highway Police 843402
Traffic Police 896390
Public Security Department 630321
Hotel Complaints 658800
Price Complaints 661176
Water and Sewerage 897467
Complaints 787111
Telephone Information (directory assistance) 121
Overseas Calls 010230
Central Amman Telephone 623101
Abdali Telephone Repairs 661101
Jordan Television 773111
Radio Jordan 680100
Water Authority 815615
Electric Power 636381
RJ Flight Information 08-53200
Queen Alia Int. Airport 08-53200

HOSPITALS

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Hussein Medical Centre 813813/32
Khalid Maternity, J. Amn. 642816
Jabal Amman Maternity 642412
Malhas J. Amman 636140
Palestine, Shmeisani 664174
Shmeisani Hospital 669131
University Hospital 845845
Al-Mushar Hospital 667279
The Islamic, Abdali 666127/37
Al-Ahli, Abdali 664164
Italian, Al-Muhajirant 771013
Al-Bashir J. Ashrafieh 7511106
Army, Marka 891611/15
Queen Alia Hospital 60224050
Al-Hospital 674155
ZARQA:
Zarqa Govt. Hospital (09)983323
Zarqa National Hospital (09)991071
Ibn Sina Hospital (09)986732
IBRD:
Princess Basma Hospital (02)215555
Greek Catholic Hospital (02)272775
Ibn Al Nafes Hospital (02)247100
AQABA:
Princess Haya Hospital (05)314111

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (08)3320-5, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

16:00	Damascus (RJ)
16:30	Tunis, Casablanca (RJ)
16:45	Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
16:45	Larnaca (RJ)
16:55	Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
17:00	Cairo, Aqaba (RJ)
17:20	Los Angeles, Chicago, Vienna (RJ)
18:00	Kuwait (RJ)
18:00	Riyadh (RJ)
18:00	New York, Vienna (RJ)
18:20	Paris (RJ)
18:45	Cairo (RJ)
18:45	London, Geneva (RJ)
18:55	Brussels, Frankfurt (RJ)
19:00	Madrid, Rome (RJ)
19:20	Istanbul, Athens (RJ)
19:45	Chicago (RJ)
01:15	Baghdad (RJ)

MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

Israeli Arabs complain

TEL AVIV (R) — Israeli Arab leaders have officially complained about Israel's Hebrew publication of Salman Rushdie's novel "The Satanic Verses." Israel Radio said Tuesday the heads of Arab local councils wrote to President Chaim Herzog and Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir to protest against the translation. The first run of 4,000 copies sold out in three days last week. The letters said Arab Muslims, who make up about 15 per cent of the Israeli population, were promised that officials would try to prevent publication of the book. Rachel Marani, spokeswoman for Israel's Keter publishing house, said Sunday some Israelis, calling the book offensive to Islam, had objected when her company announced plans to publish it, but opposition had since evaporated.

Israelis fire Gaza surgeon

OCCUPIED GAZA (R) — Israeli occupation authorities have fired leading Palestinian surgeon Dr. Ahmad Yazji from the Gaza Strip's main government hospital, accusing him of hostile political activity. Yazji, 42, who has treated hundreds of casualties at Gaza's Shifa hospital from the 18-month-old Palestinian uprising, said he was summoned by the Israeli chief medical officer and told he was being dismissed. The Israeli official accused him of being a leading activist of the Fateh group in the Gaza Strip, Yazji told Reuters. Israeli sources confirmed that he was dismissed on political grounds. The Egyptian-trained surgeon, who is also a director of his family's soft drink bottling firm and citrus packing company, has been barred from leaving the country for the last eight years. He was among 30 Palestinian leaders from the occupied territories who met Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Boutros Ghali in Israel last week. "You can't keep silent when you see our people being killed and maimed every day," he told Reuters. "I tell the wounded when they come to my hospital that they are real heroes."

Lawyers urge Syrian-Egypt unity

DAMASCUS (R) — More than 2,000 Arab lawyers, including 400 from Egypt, opened a conference Monday with calls for unity between Syria and Egypt. Speaking on behalf of Syrian President Hafez Al Assad at the 17th meeting of Arab Bar Associations, Syrian Vice-President Abdul Halim Khaddam endorsed the call and stressed the need for Arab solidarity. The conference is also attended by 180 lawyers from Iraq. Ahmad al Khawaja, the head of the Egyptian Bar Association, told Khaddam he would tell Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak that the Syrian and Egyptian peoples wanted renewed ties and unity. "God will try you for every day which passes without you working to achieve unity between Syria and Egypt," he said.

Iranian representative quits tribunal post

THE HAGUE (AP) — Mohammad K. Eshragh, who became Iran's chief representative to the Iran-United States claims tribunal here at its inception seven years ago, has resigned his post, tribunal sources confirmed Monday. As the agent of his government, Eshragh has been responsible for defending its interests in financial claims brought against it at the tribunal. The nine-judge panel is charged with arbitrating billions of dollars worth of such American and Iranian claims arising out of the 1979 Iranian revolution. The tribunal sources, who spoke in exchange for anonymity, said Eshragh would remain in the Hague as senior adviser to the Bureau of Iranian Legal Services (BILS) after the July 6 effective date of his resignation. Eshragh has notified tribunal officials informally of his resignation over the past month, according to the sources. Eshragh refused to comment publicly on his resignation. The BILS agency provides legal support services for Iranian parties to claims at the tribunal. Eshragh's deputy, Ali Heyrani-Nobari, will replace him until the appointment of a new agent by Iran, according to one of the sources.

Iran building labour camps for addicts

NICOSIA (R) — Iran is building a network of labour camps across the country to detain drug addicts and force them to work on public projects. Ali Shushitari, head of Iran's prisons organisation, told the official news agency IRNA that at least one camp was planned for each of the country's 24 provinces. Iran is officially estimated to have a million drug addicts — one in 50 of the population. A law passed in January gave them six months to quit or face forced labour. The deadline is July 22. According to an IRNA report received in Cyprus Monday Shushitari said addicts would work on development projects under guard by day and be returned to the camps at night until they are fully rehabilitated. Iran resumed handing of drug dealers on the weekend after three weeks. The pause in almost daily executions was apparently in deference to the death June 3 of revolutionary leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini.

Iran hangs 'spy,' drug smuggler

NICOSIA (R) — Iran said Tuesday it had executed a spy and a smuggler. The Iranian news agency IRNA received in Nicosia said Firuz Shoshian was hanged July 17 having been found guilty of passing secrets to Iraq during their eight-year-long conflict. Drug dealer Ahmad Norzaie was hanged Tuesday, IRNA said.

Rabbis try to close down airport

TEL AVIV (AP) — Ultra-orthodox rabbis controlling Israel's labour ministry will try to close down the country's international airport on Saturdays because flights violate the Jewish Sabbath, a ministry spokesman said Monday. Deputy Minister of Labour and Social Affairs Rabbi Moshe Feldman has asked the transport minister to check the possibility of ending flights on the Sabbath at Ben Gurion airport, said labour minister spokesman Zvi Rosen. "The ministry wants to close the airport," Rosen said. A spokesman for Transport Minister Moshe Katsav insisted he would not stop Sabbath travel. "I can tell you we don't want to close the airport," said Yehiel Amitai, transport ministry spokesman.

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel. 773111-19

PROGRAMME ONE

15:30 Koran
15:40 Les Piques Assiettes
15:45 Children's programmes
17:25 Documentary
17:50 Programme on world news
18:00 News summary in Arabic
18:05 Cairo News Service
18:45 Local programme
19:20 Common mistakes
19:40 Varieties programme
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 News in Arabic
21:30 Wrestling
22:30 Varieties programme
23:00 News summary in Arabic

PROGRAMME TWO

18:00 Les Piques Assiettes
18:30 Des Chiffres Et de Lettres
19:00 News in French
19:15 Aujourd'hui en Jordanie
19:30 News in Hebrew
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Puscidon Files
21:10 Doc. "The Great Rift"
22:00 News in English
22:20 Bluegrass

PRAYER TIMES

6:50 Fajr
12:50 (Sunrise) Dhuhr
13:57 Dhuhr
16:41 Asr
19:49 Maghreb

CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church Swetich, Tel. 810740
Assemblies of God Church, Tel. 632785
St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440
De la Salle Church Tel. 661757
Terrence Church Tel. 623666
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 623541
Anglican Church Tel. 625383, Tel. 771331
Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 773161
Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 771331
St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751
Armenian International Church Tel. 632626
Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 811258
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel. 815817, 821264

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.
It will be fair and winds will be northwesterly moderate. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

AMMAN

Yesterday's high temperature: Amman 28, Aqaba 36. Humidity readings: Amman 34 per cent, Aqaba 28 per cent.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:
Dr. Issam Hawarneh 624830
Dr. Walid Al Masri 675485
Dr. Mohammad Al Sawwa 725056
Dr. Jassim Marqat 770046
Firas pharmacy 661912
Ferdows pharmacy 778336
Al Asema pharmacy 637055
Najmouk pharmacy 636730
Al Saban pharmacy 644945
Shmeisani pharmacy 637660

JERUSALEM:
Dr. Radwan Al Saad (—)
Al Sharaa pharmacy (985238)

ZARQA:
Dr. Hisham Hiyassat 982440

EMERGENCIES

Civil Defence Department 661111
Civil Defence Emergency 630341
Rescue 199
Fire Brigade 611228
Blood Bank 775121
Highway Police 843402
Traffic Police 896390
Public Security Department 630321
Hotel Complaints 658800
Price Complaints 661176
Water and Sewerage 897467
Complaints 787111
Telephone Information (directory assistance) 121
Overseas Calls 010230
Central Amman Telephone 623101
Abdali Telephone Repairs 661101
Jordan Television 773111
Radio Jordan 680100
Water Authority 815615
Electric Power 636381
RJ Flight Information 08-53200
Queen Alia Int. Airport 08-53200

HOSPITALS

AMMAN:
Hussein Medical Centre 813813/32
Khalid Maternity, J. Amn. 642816
Jabal Amman Maternity 642412
Malhas J. Amman 636140
Palestine, Shmeisani 664174
Shmeisani Hospital 669131
University Hospital 845845
Al-Mushar Hospital 667279
The Islamic, Abdali 666127/37
Al-Ahli, Abdali 664164
Italian, Al-Muhajirant 771013
Al-Bashir J. Ashrafieh 7511106
Army, Marka 891611/15
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Al-Hospital 674155
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Zarqa National Hospital (09)991071
Ibn Sina Hospital (09)986732
IBRD:
Princess Basma Hospital (02)215555
Greek Catholic Hospital (02)272775
Ibn Al Nafes Hospital (02)2

Dioxin 'threat' dawdles under milky surface

By Ghadeer Taher
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Nothing in life is without risk and food is no exception. From its beginnings on farms to its final destination on dining tables, food products undergo a confusing array of natural and unnatural processes. What we eat or drink is not always what we see.

Terrorist threats on Chilean fruit in the United States, and worries about pesticide-ridden "shiny" apples, hormone-injected beef and potentially contaminated milk have, off-and-on, sparked trade and economic wars among governments, farmers, retailers and consumers. The threats are alien and internal, natural and man-made, actual and perceived. In the case of the possibility of potentially carcinogenic dioxin used for milk, the answer is still unclear.

The Jordanian Health Ministry, alerted by a recent American magazine report which warned of the dangers posed by dioxin, a byproduct of the bleaching agent chlorine used in manufacturing paper cartons, launched an investigation and found that there is no

definite evidence to support the warning that consumption of milk packed in such packages may cause cancer.

An internal Health Ministry report, a copy of which was made available to the Jordan Times this week, seeks to assuage Jordanian consumers' fears by stressing that dioxin contamination of paperboard cartons is not yet confirmed and that research is still in progress in the United States, Canada and other advanced countries. It recommends that the ministry and other concerned parties take action only when contamination is proven.

The report, signed by Dr. Issa Ababneh, head of the Department of Environmental Health, says: "No formula has yet been found to measure dioxin contamination in milk and juice preserved in paper containers," thus challenging the Newsweek article which said that a Canadian scientist, John Ryan, had "measured" .04 part per trillion (ppt) of the dioxin known as TCDD in the paper cartons used in the milk industry.

The agent, described by experts as "one of the most potent

animal carcinogens known," apparently enters paper products during a bleaching process that uses chlorine. It is capable of migrating into the fatty cells of milk. Dioxin is a known by-product of any chemical that is made up of chlorinated hydrocarbons, which of course are present in chlorine.

According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), even 1 ppt of TCDD poses an "unacceptable" cancer risk. Dr. Ababneh's report, however, interpreted the EPA conclusion as meaning "danger would appear if the contamination level proved to be at the rate of one part in a trillion." This indicates that a finding of .04 ppt is not considered harmful, according to the ministry's report.

Newsweek said that the only documented effect of dioxin poisoning in humans was a skin disease called "chloracne," which was diagnosed as such in victims of an industrial accident. But TCDD has also been linked, based on results of tests on animals, to birth defects and disorders of the immune and nervous systems of the human body.

'Particular threat'

Dioxin is believed to pose a particular threat to children. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), in the process of verifying Ryan's findings, estimates that children drinking all their milk from contaminated paper cartons may be exceeding their daily dioxin intake by two times.

Dr. Saeed Alloush, a scientist at the Royal Scientific Society's (RSS) Department of Organic Technology, agrees with the FDA finding. "Dioxin is particularly dangerous for children," he told the Jordan Times in a telephone interview.

Children are more susceptible to dioxin because they generally drink a greater amount of milk than adults, explained Dr. Alloush. "There is a focus on milk because dioxin accumulates on the fat cells and milk contains many of these cells," he said.

Dioxin is found in fish, soya bean and mother's milk. The dioxin threat first attracted world attention in 1976 when the Seveso chemical plant in Milan, Italy, suffered an explosion at one of its reactors. As a result, 75,000 different types of animals were killed and

several hundred people were injured. It was proven that dioxin was a by-product of the volatile reaction. It was also a major by-product of the deadly nerve gas "agent orange" used by the Americans in the Vietnam war.

Dr. Ababneh, referring to a recommendation made by Newsweek, agrees in his report that "glass containers are rightly considered as the best to keep food, but paper cartons are widely used all over the world and no negative effects have been reported."

The two major dairy plants in Jordan — the Danish Jordanian Dairy Products Company and the Jordanian Dairy Products Company — while aware of the threat, say that their Scandinavian principals have not raised any alarm and point out that the paper cartons used in Jordan are imported from Scandinavia and are not any different from those used elsewhere.

Seen against this backdrop, the question remains: How much are Jordanian consumers of milk packed in paper cartons exposed to dioxin contamination? The answer is elusive and will remain so as long as definite evidence from the international community is missing.



Minister of planning Dr. Ziad Fariz and the head of the EC delegation in Amman Christian Falkowski Tuesday sign an agreement for studying Azraq water resources (Petra photo).

Jordan gets 3m. ECU grant for water study

AMMAN (J.T.) — The European Community Tuesday signed an agreement granting Jordan three million ECUs to study ground water resources in the Azraq Basin, in the northeast.

An EC statement said the money for the three-year project was part of a 100 million ECU 1987 to 1991 protocol which stresses aid to Jordan's water and irrigation sector.

At present Jordan pumps 15 million cubic metres a year from a shallow Azraq aquifer to Amman, with adverse environmental effects. The study will explore medium and deep level supplies and provide data for efficient management of the basin.

The agreement was signed at

the Ministry of Planning by Minister of Planning Dr. Ziad Fariz and the head of the European Community's delegation in Amman, Christian Falkowski.

The project is to be carried out under the responsibility of the Ministry of Water and Irrigation, with the assistance of a European partner.

The study will examine the hydraulic constitution of the medium and deep level water supplies, which are thought to be considerable, assessing its pro-

duction potential and providing data to allow the efficient water management of the Azraq basin. The study will allow a higher water exploitation level without environmental damage.

The study will include the evaluation of existing data, the preparation and execution of a drilling programme, and the establishment of hydraulic models for different pump rates to predict aquifer behaviour.

Earlier this year, an agreement for the financing of a national soil map and land use project in Jordan was signed, contributing 4 million ECU for detailed investigations and classification of Jordan's agricultural resources and potential.

NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

CHILDREN'S EXHIBITION: Information Minister Nasouh Al Majali Tuesday opened a drawing exhibition, organised by Al Sanafir Elementary School to mark the Army and the Great Arab Revolt Day. On display at the exhibition, which is held at the Royal Cultural Centre, are a number of children's drawings enhancing the meanings of belonging, giving and freedom. (J.T.)

DEAD SEA-NAOUR ROAD: Public Works and Housing Director Shafiq Zawiadeh Tuesday inspected progress of work in the Dead Sea-Naour road where work is currently under way to construct a four-lane divided highway. (Petra)

ABANDA RETURNS FROM GENEVA: Secretary General of the Meteorology Department Ali Abanda Monday returned home from Geneva where he took part in the 41st session of the World Meteorology Organisation's (WMO) executive board, which has recently been concluded. In an arrival statement, Abanda said that the board has approved the organisation's biennial budget and has formed specialised committees for studying climatic changes at the international level, in cooperation and coordination with the concerned international organisations. (Petra)

MAFRAQ PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT: Mafraq Public Works Department has completed the construction of its JD 170,000 premises, which include laboratories, testing workshops, warehouses and public courts, in addition to offices. (Petra)

TV PHOTOGRAPHY COURSE: A six-week training course on lighting and photography for 16 photographers and light technicians from Jordan Television concluded Tuesday. The course, organised by Jordan Radio and Television Corporation's Information Training Centre, aimed at upgrading the performance of television technicians through intensive training courses, designed in accordance with the latest scientific methods. (Petra)

INFORMATICS SEMINAR ENDS: A three-day regional seminar on national policies for informatics and information services in the Arab World concluded in Amman Tuesday and adopted a number of recommendations, designed to focus on training of information personnel and developing the institutional infrastructure of education. Participants stressed the need for flexible national policies, capable of adjusting to any changes in the priorities set out by the various national development plans. (Petra)

COMPUTER COURSE ENDS: A week-long course on the use of computers in the stock management concluded in Amman Tuesday. The course was held by the Industrial Development Bank's Institute of Management for 18 senior employees from various industrial, commercial, financial and service institutions in Jordan, Bahrain, Oman and Kuwait. (Petra)

TAE-KWON-DO: Tae-kwon-do will be included in the 11th Asian Games due to be held in 1990, Asian Olympic Council (AOC) Chairman Sheikh Fahd Al Ahmad told in a message he sent Monday to Youth Minister Dr. Awad Khelefat. The AOC, he added, supports all kinds of sports in which the Arab youths made good scores. (Petra)

NEW CAR PLATES POSTPONED: The Public Security Department (PSD) has postponed plans to issue new car plates until further notice, due to technical reasons. The Drivers and Vehicles Licensing Department was given a period of two years to carry out the plan, a PSD source said. (Petra)

BRUNEI MINISTER: University of Jordan President Dr. Abdul Salam Al Majali Monday received the Brunei minister of religious affairs and discussed prospects of accepting a number of Brunei students at the post-graduate level. (Petra)

BASIRA SEEKS JD 80M LOAN: The Basira municipality has requested a JD 80 million loan from the Cities and Villages Development Bank to carry out a number of projects related to improving facilities and constructing a new municipality building. (Petra)

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

- ★ An art exhibition by Jordanian and Arab artists at Al Wasiti Art Gallery.
- ★ A photography exhibition on Jordan by Francis Chaveron at the French Cultural Centre.
- ★ An exhibition entitled "Spotlight Germany" displaying works by eleven German photographers at the Yarmouk University.
- ★ An exhibition of photographs on Arabic and orientalist architecture by Radolph Hammadi at the French Cultural Centre.
- ★ An art exhibition entitled "Study in Line and Colour" by Dodi Tabaa at the Petra Bank Art Gallery.
- ★ An exhibition of handicrafts which includes ceramics, knit-wear and pottery at the Salt Handicrafts Training Centre.
- ★ A photography exhibition entitled "Amman Under King Hussein's Rule" at the Professional Associations Complex, Ramtha.

LECTURE

- ★ A lecture by Dr. Jawad Al 'Anani on "Technology and Development in Jordan" at the Royal Automobile Club — 7:30 p.m.

New batch of police officers end security course at Swaqa

AMMAN (Petra) — The Swaqa Training Centre, operated by the Public Security Department (PSD), Tuesday turned out a new batch of police officers who have completed a course in providing security and protection to important personalities.

A graduation ceremony was attended by PSD Director General Abdul Hadi Al Majali who

delivered a speech on the occasion, outlining the training programmes and their aim of raising "the efficiency of the police officers and training them in the use of modern equipment."

The PSD provides advanced training to selected numbers of its personnel on a regular basis at two sites: Swaqa and Kafrein, in

the Jordan Valley. The graduates presented display of their skills and martial arts as well as a tug-of-war and mountain-climbing skills before the spectators.

The PSD chief later distributed awards to the graduates.

Jordan to buy limited amount of W. Bank fruits

AMMAN (J.T.) — Limited quantities of a selected number of fruits will be allowed to be bought by Jordan from the occupied West Bank for the coming month, according to a statement issued Tuesday by the Ministry of Agriculture.

The statement said that shipments of bananas, peaches, carrots and vine leaves will be allowed to cross into Jordan pro-

vided that they are supported by certificates of origin to prove that they had been grown in Arab-owned areas.

The statement which gave details of the quantities and the procedures to be followed, said that the decision was taken as part of the government of Jordan's endeavour to provide support for the steadfastness of the Palestinian people.

Seminar to discuss role of expatriates in development

AMMAN (J.T.) — A seminar on the role of expatriates in developing Jordan will open here on July 6 with the participation of expatriates and a number of Jordanian organisations, as well as senior officials in charge of economic, financial and planning services in the Kingdom, Minister of Labour Jamal Bdur announced here Tuesday.

He said that the two-day seminar which was called for by the Fourth Jordanian Expatriates Conference held here last year, will prepare the ground for the fifth conference due on July 8 and will refer to it a number of recommendations.

The minister expressed hope that the seminar will contribute to the success of the four-day conference and involve as many expatriates as possible in the process of contributing to their country's development.

Last Sunday, Bdur announced that the fifth conference will review four main working papers on political, economic, scientific and technological subjects as well as the implementation of resolutions taken by earlier conferences.

The minister said that the expatriates themselves will provide other working papers dealing with economic issues and expatriates' transfers to their homeland.

Baghdad meeting to unify civil aviation authorities of ACC

CAIRO (J.T.) — Heads of airlines in member countries of the Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) will hold a meeting in Baghdad on July 4 to set up a unified civil aviation council, according to Ali Ziko, the head of the Egyptian Civil Aviation Authority.

Ziko said that the four officials will also discuss coordination among the four airlines in Egypt, Jordan, Iraq and North Yemen

with a view to improving their performance, reducing their operational costs and promoting the tourist industry in the four countries.

The four ACC countries will also be involved in a pan-Arab company to finance the purchase and the lease of aircraft for the Arab airlines.

According to Mr. Ali Dajani, secretary general of the Arab Air Carriers Organisation (AACO),

the official establishment of the projected company will take place early next month in Kuwait.

Dajani, who was speaking in Amman before his departure for Kuwait to take part in preliminary meetings, said that the joint company will be financed by Arab and foreign banks, but that the preliminary meeting will determine the share of each participating Arab airline in the company's capital.

QAF prepares expansion plan for slow learners

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Queen Alia Social Welfare Fund (QAF) has prepared an expansion plan for its services to slow learners in the light of successes made in this respect last year in three areas of southern Jordan, according to Yousef Saleh who is in charge of QAF's rehabilitation programmes.

Saleh said that the project was first carried out at Huseinih, Fakkou' and Aiy in the Karak Governorate, in cooperation with the Ministry of Education, the Karak Society for the Handicapped and the special education programme at the University of Jordan.

Saleh noted that slow learners have an average I.Q. of 70 to 90 compared with normal persons

with an average I.Q. of 90 to 110; but those below the level of 70 are considered as retarded.

Saleh cited statistics and estimates conducted at international levels which consider 13 per cent of the total population of any society as being retarded.

Saleh said that the QAF is introducing measure whereby children with slow learning abilities can be helped to cope with the childhood difficulties and acquire learning to the highest possible level.

Special classes for slow learners within schools can be introduced in Jordan, Saleh said.

Many of those considered handicapped proved to be slow learners and that many of the

children who have not yet been examined failed to acquire primary education like the rest of the class due to their slow learning abilities.

These facts, he said, warranted the execution of a special programme in cooperation with the Ministry of Education and its departments in Karak, Qaser, and Mazar Al Janoubi where classes for slow learners have been opened.

These classes, he added, will be expanded and more will be opened in the course of the QAF project with assistance from the University of Jordan.

To prepare for the expansion programme, QAF is launching a public awareness campaign in a

number of regions for the benefit of children and their families, as well as to gain the support of the education authorities to keep the students in their own schools but, to provide special classes for their learning, Saleh noted.

He said that the QAF is recruiting specially-trained university graduates for teaching the slow learners.

In April last year, QAF ended 10 years of its existence and it was announced that future plans included the establishment of more centres with programmes to assist the handicapped, child care centres, a programme to support social organisations in rural development and a programme for the development of research and study centres for social services.

Aqaba-Nweibeh route ferry boats to be increased to 3

CAIRO (J.T.) — Ferry boats, transporting goods, passengers and vehicles between Aqaba and Nweibeh are to be increased to cope with the growing demand on transportation along the land-sea route, according to Abdullah Nafe', director of the customs office at Nweibeh.

He said that there will be three instead of two ferry boats operating along the route on a daily basis, and the number of employees at the customs offices will be doubled to meet the expected increase in the volume of goods.

He said that the new procedures will entail less formalities which would not last for more than an hour.

Nafe' expected 150,000 tourists from various Arab states to use the land-sea route during the Eid Al Adha feast which falls in the middle of next month.

According to Nafe', the past five months witnessed an increase of 40 per cent in the number of tourists travelling both ways over the same period last year.

The land-sea route is operated by the Arab Maritime Bridge Company which groups Egypt, Iraq and Jordan and which last year made a \$2.1 million in profits.

A statement submitted to the company's general assembly earlier this month said that the company's fleet of vehicles and ferry boats transported 636,603 per cent over the 1987 figures.

Apart from the land-sea route, Egypt and Jordan are contemplating a rail link to join Cairo and Amman.

According to Dr. Hilmi Nammur, the Secretary General of the Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) which groups Egypt, Iraq, Jordan and North Yemen, the rail link between the two capitals

will be among the most important projects that will be carried out to boost economic and transport ties among the four ACC member countries.

This project, he said in a statement to Cairo's Al Ahram newspaper, is currently under consideration.

Earlier this week, an Iraqi-Jordanian technical committee approved a \$1.9 billion project to link Baghdad and the Jordanian Red Sea port of Aqaba by rail. The new 1,000 kilometres line will stretch from Iraq's western town of Al Haditha which has a rail connection with Baghdad to Aqaba via Amman.

The project is part of the economic integration plan among the ACC member states.

IRAQI CHILD DISAPPEARS AND JD 5,000 CASH REWARD



On 15/5/1989, an Iraqi child called "Sahem" Sami Thomas George, aged six and half years, disappeared in the company of his mother, my divorcee called Dennis Khalil Ibrahim Tas, who used to live with her parents in the plastic uproad — Shumaisani — Amman, Jordan. The boy has been absent from his school since the morning of 16/5/1989.

Anyone who knows any information that would help find

his whereabouts whether inside or outside the country is kindly requested to notify Shmeisani police station, nearest police station or his father, Sami Thomas George, on tel: 686771. Amman and a reward of JD 5,000 in cash will immediately be paid to him.

However, anyone who covers up for the child, his mother, place of availability or hide information concerning their disappearance shall be subject to prosecution taking into consideration that the child is included in his father's Iraqi passport and does not bear any other travel document.

The child's particulars are: Red Hair, white complexion and hazel eyes.

Child's father Thomas Sami George

Tel: 686771

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation
Established 1975

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Jordan Times Advertising Department.

Of barns and barren COWS

"SWITCHING BARNs won't help barren cows," thus goes an ancient Sanskrit proverb, of which we are reminded today with the Israeli announcement that it has replaced its military commanders in an apparent new effort to quell the 18-month-old Palestinian uprising. Coming as it does, one day after Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir reaffirmed his "iron fist" or "scorched earth" policy of confronting the Palestinians in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, the appointment of a "tough and rough" officer to replace an avowed "liberal" as West Bank military commander is no surprise. But what is surprising indeed is the obvious cold shoulder that the leaders of the Zionist state are giving to advice from high-level brass, including Chief of Staff Don Shomron, that there cannot be a military solution to the uprising short of mass expulsions, starvation or genocide of the Palestinians. No doubt, those who wield power in Israel continue to refuse to accept the reality that the intifada is not just a matter of "riots" and "violent rampages." They remain oblivious to the fact that the revolt represents the dedicated quest of a people, long suffering under the yoke of occupation, to regain their dignity, freedom and independence and no bullet made in the world today is capable of killing its spirit. That was the thrust of the message delivered to the Israeli government by Shomron as well as the outgoing West Bank commander, Amram Mizna, who was seen by many Israelis as going "too soft" on the Palestinians. The world must be wondering how the Zionist leaders define "hard," having seen "softness" in Mizna, who led the army through hundreds of deaths and thousands of injuries in the West Bank in the past 18 months.

It is obvious that the Israelis, along with quite a few others around the globe, see the intifada as having reached a point where the Zionist state, as well as the international community, can live with the death of one or two Palestinians and a dozen casualties every day without raising much of a hue and cry amid the loud Israeli drumming to project its state election plan for the occupied territories as a gesture of peace. The view is further augmented by the fact that the world, at best, was only a sympathetic bystander expressing condemnation of Israeli actions and vocal support for the victims of brutality but doing very little in practical terms to eliminate the root causes of the suffering. To be sure, Israel is encouraged by the international hesitancy (or is it frustrated helplessness?) to push for realistic action to put an end to its oppression. While the point is debatable whether world public opinion will remain static and resigned to accepting Israeli violence as a way of life for the Palestinian struggle for liberation, there is no doubt whatsoever that increased Israeli brutality, as heralded in the latest Israeli moves, would only help drown out voices of moderation and strengthen extremist positions on the Arab side. More Palestinian blood will indeed be shed, but little dampness will be found on the people's will to wrench their legitimate rights with whatever sacrifice. The intifada crossed the point of no return very long ago, and the Israeli leaders will realise it if only they will stop and reflect for a moment. When will they be ready for it?

For one thing, the Palestinians are not talking Sanskrit.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Jordanian dailies commented Tuesday on King Hussein's address to the opening session of the Al Al-Bayt Foundation conference in Amman where he called on Muslim scholars to lead the Islamic world to unity and constructive action within religious framework. Al Rai daily said that the King's address served as a message to all Muslim scholars who can heal the rift among Islamic nations and bolster ranks among Muslims in the face of common challenges. King Hussein's address was clear, and it reached the hearts of millions of people on whom the monarch called to exert serious efforts to strengthen the Islamic world and to end all forms of divisions, the paper added. The King criticised those who went astray in their preaching of Islam and urged the scholars to put things in the right perspective through their joint endeavours, their writings and their guidance, the paper added. The scholars' task is formidable as the King had pointed out, since they alone can present the Islamic faith in its true image and can guide the Muslims towards a new era, the paper concluded.

A columnist in Al Rai daily comments Tuesday on Israel's Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's new threats to use the iron-fist policy against the Palestinian people. Shamir is threatening to crush the intifada either through continued oppressive deeds or through the Jewish settlers who continue their barbaric actions in the Arab territory, Abdul Rahim Omar notes. The writer reminds his readers that the Crusaders who launched a series of campaigns on Palestine were forced back thanks to the unity of Arab and Muslim people at the time. He points out that while hundreds and thousands of Palestinians are being killed, injured or detained in the occupied territories no one hears of any preparations on the Arab and Muslim part to counteract the Zionist moves and, to save the oppressed people from tyranny and occupation. Omar says that we continue to hear calls on the world to help establish peace, but the Arab and Islamic nations are doing nothing to lift the oppression and the tyranny to which the Palestinians are subjected. He criticises Islamic nations who are showing extra zeal in fighting along side the Afghan rebels who seek to overthrow the regime in Kabul, but no one is taking meaningful action to rally the Muslims and the Arabs for the sake of liberating the holy places in Jerusalem and Palestine, the writer points out.

W Germans measure Gorbachev visit

By Tom Heneghan
Reuter

BONN — With their hero gone and the cheering over, West Germans are now sitting back and wondering what will come out of the emotions that Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev aroused here.

During his four-day visit last week, Gorbachev held out the tantalising vision of a Europe without nuclear arms, a crumbling Berlin Wall and some sort of reunion of Germans now divided by the iron curtain.

The message came across like the clear tones of the Pied Piper's flute. Chants of "Gorby, Gorby" rose from cheering crowds that acted, as one television commentator put it, "as if the once-feared Russian bear had become a Teddy Bear."

Now that Bonn is slipping

back into its sleepy ways, the achievements of Gorbachev's first visit here are emerging in four categories: hopes for German unity, possibilities for cuts in nuclear arms, prospects for increased trade and the promise of better bilateral relations.

Gorbachev's comment that the Berlin Wall could fall one day made headlines around the world. But few West Germans believe it will come down before the communist state behind it becomes as free and as rich as West Germany.

East German leader Erich Honecker said last week that the wall, built in 1961 to halt a flood of refugees to the West, was still needed to keep his country from being "bled white" through what he called Western economic plundering.

Bringing East Germany up to the level of its Western neigh-

bour would require Gorbachev-style perestroika (restructuring) and glasnost (openness) in East Berlin, something the orthodox rulers there are strongly resisting.

"A sort of fear for its own existence seems to be spreading among the East German leadership," Erhard Eppler, a former Social Democratic cabinet minister, said Saturday in a speech marking the official day of German unity holiday here.

"Perestroika in East Germany, which will always be open to the natural pull of the bigger, richer and freer German state, is more difficult and more dangerous than elsewhere."

Reunification is even further away, as it would also involve the consent of both Germanies' neighbours and alter the European balance of power.

Open borders

Aware of the hurdles, politicians here talk vaguely of a far-off day when East Germany might be so prosperous and free that the border between the two countries could be as open as the West German frontier with Austria.

Gorbachev's visit could also influence NATO plans to modernise nuclear weapons here, diplomats said.

Seeing no more Soviet threat, a large majority of West German voters oppose plans to replace the ageing Lance short-range nuclear missiles, mostly stationed here.

At the insistence of West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl, NATO has delayed a decision on them until 1992 and agreed to open the talks he sought on reducing them once convention-

al arms cuts are negotiated and implemented.

If Gorbachev continues along his reform path, one envoy said, no Bonn government will be able to agree to more nuclear arms. "It is politically impossible," he said.

The most tangible results of Gorbachev's trip will be in the economic sphere, and even here the visit brought strong prospects but no new contracts.

Firms from West Germany, Moscow's leading Western trading partner, have already launched 72 joint ventures under Gorbachev's new laws on foreign investment.

Both sides seek to expand that with an agreement signed here that protects investments in the Soviet Union, a vital guarantee for the many small and medium-sized firms that help make West

Germany an exporting power-house.

According to Economics Minister Helmut Haussmann, Moscow is also planning three car factories by the year 2000 and is hoping to bring Daimler-Benz or Volkswagen into the projects.

Gorbachev's visit also resulted in a marked improvement in diplomatic relations, which had been strained by Bonn's harder pro-NATO stand in the early 1980s and Kohl's comparison of Gorbachev's public relations skills with Nazi propaganda chief Joseph Goebbels.

Kohl and Gorbachev signed a joint declaration, the first of its kind between Moscow and a Western country, pledging them to work for disarmament and unity in Europe. They also promised to hold regular summits.

Honecker — memory doesn't fade

By Jim Hoagland

BERLIN — Nietzsche teaches that memory, which recalls "I have done that," eventually yields to pride, which then argues "I cannot have done that." The German nation teeters between memory and pride in the 40th anniversary year of the creation of two German states from the ashes of World War II.

The dominant mood on the western side of the Berlin Wall is to forget and to have others forget. Pride is asserting its anachronistic force. West Germans move assertively to shed the burden of guilt from the war and to erase lingering traces of the occupation it brought.

Ultimately this means erasing what the historian Fritz Stern has called "the permanently provisional" division of Germany. The West German constitution enshrines unity as the act that will remove the last vestiges of German guilt and defeat.

Here in East Germany, the compulsion is to remember. But this is an exercise in power politics, not in morality. East Germany's Communist leadership clings to history as a source of legitimacy. Amid the turmoil that challenges Communist rule in Beijing, Moscow and Warsaw, leaders here work to keep the

legacy of Hitler and the commitment of Stalin in full force as an essential part of their rule.

A mirror image of West German concerns exists here behind the Wall. For having fought against Hitler and having ruthlessly purged Nazis, Erich Honecker and his colleagues claim a moral authority strong enough to dispense with Western democratic freedoms. And they constantly remind their superpower patron, the Soviet Union, of its commitment to keep Germany divided.

In a long conversation, Honecker says out loud what Europeans and Americans who share his conviction only whisper: Germany must never be reunited because it inevitably would represent a threat to peace. Reunification, says Honecker, is a "fireside dream."

Paying the price division forever

The East German leader's contribution to the renewed discussion of the German question is heavily weighted with self-interest. His regime would not survive if the "fireside dream" came into being. Reunification is as much his nightmare as it is of French and Soviet generals.

The shrewd and resilient Honecker, leader of the East German Communist Party for 18 years,

argues that Hitler's legacy hangs permanently over the German nation, which must pay the price of division forever. "Nobody could have an interest in having a state again in the heart of Europe which would be so difficult to keep under control," Honecker says.

Honecker chooses his moment deliberately, emphasising the dangers of changes in the division of Europe on the eve of the visit by the Soviet leader, Mikhail Gorbachev, to Bonn, which recently hosted President Bush.

Honecker gives his visitor no hint that he shares the fears of some Western observers that Gorbachev would support a deal to reunify Germany as a neutral state. But the East German leader takes the opportunity of the interview to remind the Soviets that they tamper with peace in Europe if they tamper with the division of Germany.

Gorbachev's problems, and the popular revolts against Chinese and Polish Communist parties, would seem to confirm Honecker, who is 76, in his opposition to opening up his repressive system now. He credibly asserts that he introduced economic decentralisation and incentive programmes in the 1970s similar to Gorbachev's perestroika.

Honecker's relations with Gor-

bachev do not seem to be as strained as is thought, or perhaps hoped, in the West, where the East German rejection of perestroika and glasnost has been interpreted as a challenge to the Soviet leader.

The sense among observers here in Berlin is that Gorbachev has told Honecker that the Kremlin values stability in East Germany above all else, and that Honecker is free to achieve that stability however he happens to see fit.

With or without Gorbachev's blessing, that is an increasingly difficult assignment. The enormous budget subsidies that have kept food prices at the same level for 20 years are smothering the economy. The material benefits offered as a justification for Marxist-Leninist repression will soon be beyond the reach of the Worker's Paradise.

And memory fades, just as Nietzsche teaches. German reunification becomes a vital topic once again, complicating life for Honecker.

But not only for him. Reunification still touches more exposed nerves and potential flash points than any other European issue. That needs to be remembered by American policymakers who may be tempted to make



reunification a major issue as a way of "getting back" at Gorbachev for his success with Bonn.

And remembered by those West Germans who would portray German unity as an issue to be decided by Germans alone, in their way and time. Confronting Washington on sovereignty and security issues while seeming to woo Moscow for reunification

purposes would spread mistrust of Bonn throughout the alliance.

And finally remembered by the cynics east of the Wall who depend on Hitler's shortening shadow to provide them with legitimacy. There can be no more gain in artificially preserving a nation's dishonour than there can be in trying to pretend it did not happen — *The Washington Post*.

Rift between reforms and controls widens

By Kathy Wilhelm
The Associated Press

BEIJING — The government is working overtime to condemn liberal political thought, but there has been no hint the campaign will widen to take on what conservatives have called "Western spiritual pollution," such as sidewalk pool tables, privately owned bars, and miniskirts.

The military attack on student pro-Democracy protesters and their supporters this month has been followed by more than 1,200 arrests and an intense media campaign condemning any suggestion that the power of the ruling Communist party be limited.

Political purges are expected, starting with party general secretary Zhao Ziyang, who reportedly has been stripped of his power.

So far, the cultural and economic aspects of Western culture have escaped attack.

The crackdown seems likely to increase the great divide between the economic sphere, where selected Western methods are studied and adopted, and the political sphere, where Western philosophy is taboo.

U.S. industrialist Lee Iacocca's autobiography is acceptable, for example, but not the U.S. Declaration of Independence.

For a government based on Karl Marx's tenet that economics determines everything else about a society, it is a tension-ridden division.

This division is at the heart of conflict between senior leader Deng Xiaoping on the one hand, and dissident Fang Lizhi and the student protesters on the other.

For more than a decade, Deng has sought to shake up an economy devastated by collectivisation, political battles and an economic planning system that discouraged initiative and bailed out failing factories. In economics, Deng said, pragmatism is best: "black cat, white cat, it doesn't matter as long as it catches mice."

But Deng always stressed the complete authority of the Communist party. Two previous efforts to achieve a Democratic breakthrough through public outcry — the 1978-79 Democracy wall movement and 1986-87 nationwide student marches — were put down with arrests and purges.

Fang

Fang, who has taken refuge with his wife in the U.S. embassy in Beijing, won a wide following among fellow intellectuals for arguing that economic and political reforms cannot be divorced.

Although there is no evidence to support the government charges that Fang encouraged the student protesters in their spring campaign, they echoed his position. Many economic problems, they said, such as inflation and shortages, were linked to official corruption and a controlled press that dared not expose it.

Many students praised the example of the Soviet Union, where President Mikhail S. Gorbachev has allowed a relative ferment of political debate.

If the students had been willing

to make their suggestions to government-sponsored youth groups and student unions, there might have been no great stir.

But they rejected the official bodies as not representing them

China's economic reforms would carry over to the political system, regardless of Deng's intentions. In the six months before the protests began, some thought this was happening.

"This division is at the heart of conflict between senior leader Deng Xiaoping on the one hand, and dissident Fang Lizhi and the student protesters on the other. For more than a decade, Deng has sought to shake up an economy devastated by collectivisation, political battles and an economic planning system that discouraged initiative and bailed out failing factories."

and demanded a direct say. Their stance implicitly challenged the ability of the party to represent them as well. This, it appears, was going too far.

Many intellectuals had hoped

although Vice President Wang Zhen denounced it, the authors were not punished. Greater daring was allowed in art and film.

These developments may have angered aging leaders, including Deng.

One Western diplomat said the start of the student protests in mid-April may have been seized on by the conservatives as an opportunity to embarrass relative liberals such as Zhao.

The movement for greater political reform flagged several times over its seven-week span, but the government passed repeated chances to end it peacefully.

Instead, according to this theory, it waited until sympathetic teachers, researchers, government workers and even soldiers were infected with the students' enthusiasm and joined in mar-

ches, revealing their true thinking. Then it condemned the protests as counterrevolutionary and ordered the army to put them down.

If this theory holds, purges of intellectuals and government workers can be expected to be fairly extensive. On the other hand, the leadership has a stake in restoring normal production as soon as possible, and heavy purges would make this difficult.

Regardless of how many people are purged, Chinese interviewed since the crackdown predicted more protests for democracy within a few years.

As one explained: Deng believes he can open a window to the outside and put up a screen to keep out the flies. But even the air from outside is infected with democracy.

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1,800 years after its heyday archaeologists still dig in Palmyra

By Kerin Hope
The Associated Press

PALMYRA — Archaeologists have been excavating this ancient oasis city for more than 50 years, but it will take 30 more before the full splendor of Palmyra's temples, tombs and colonnades is restored.

Lines of weathered columns gleam golden against green date-palms. Hundreds more lie buried in the sand, along with piles of huge stone blocks dating from Palmyra's heyday 1,800 years ago when it was the center of a kingdom that sat astride desert caravan routes.

"If we brought in bulldozers, we could clear the site in six months, but we'd also destroy much evidence needed to assess the city's role in history," said Archaeologist Khaled Assad, the site director.

"Doing it slowly means another generation of work by Syrian and foreign excavators... but we'll also be restoring as much of the ancient city as possible."

As well as the Syrian teams, Polish, French, West German, East German and Japanese archaeologists are digging in different areas of Palmyra.

Syria, where human habitation has been traced back 150,000 years, is an archaeological treasure house of the remnants of countless civilizations that have flourished and fallen throughout its history.

About half of ancient Palmyra, sprawling over 12 square kilometres of desert, has been unearthed.

It's Syria's top tourist attraction, drawing more than 70,000 visitors a year.

Palmyra was important because it was the hub of the network of caravan trails that carried silks and spices from eastern Asia across the Roman province of Arabia to the Mediterranean.

But its rebellious Queen Zenobia challenged Rome's authority. The city was plundered in 272 A.D. after she was captured during a long siege.

"Palmyra is a unique site... it's a great responsibility and we have to look after it, restoring the architecture, bringing it back to life," said Minister of Culture, Najjar Attar.

This year, conservators finished renovating a 3,000-seat amphitheatre overlooking a colonnaded main avenue where plays, concerts and youth festivals will be staged.

A tall arched portico forms the backdrop, flanked by deep-set doorways and pillars made of limestone hauled from local quarries.

"Palmyra boasts very lively

Roman architecture, and its public buildings are superbly planned," said Asif Bahassi, a recently retired director of antiquities who supervised the restoration.

"We've re-erected more than 150 columns as well as many masonry blocks... you can feel the sense of spaciousness and grandeur."

When excavations got under way in the 1930s, the villagers of Palmyra lived in the ruins of the huge temple of Bel, the Babylonian equivalent of Zeus, king of the gods in Greek mythology.

They were resettled outside the ancient city in a town that now has a population of 30,000.

The only modern building among the ruins is the 12-room hotel Zenobia dating from 1918, mentioned in many Middle East travellers' memoirs.

But it's unlikely to be torn down because "it happens to stand in the courtyard of a temple to the rain God Belshamin and doesn't overlie anything important," Assad said.

Last year, he said, Syrian archaeologists pulled 30 pieces "of really beautiful Statuary" from an underground tomb dated around 98 A.D.

In that period, wealthy Palmyrenes buried their relatives in family tombs decorated with portraits of the deceased in sculpture

and wall painting.

The excavators are still looking for a likeness of Queen Zenobia. "She doesn't appear in the archaeological record although we have a good deal of information about her... her career was recorded in detail by Roman historians," Assad said.

The site of her palace has been identified, but a later Roman Emperor, Diocletian, razed its remains and built a military camp there some 30 years after the city was captured.

In the 3rd century A.D., Palmyra won tax breaks from the Romans that helped boost its commercial importance.

In addition to its markets for luxury goods, the city operated a network of caravan hostels at 25-kilometre intervals — equivalent to a day's journey. Palmyrene merchants owned ships that sailed in the Persian Gulf.

But Zenobia provoked imperial anger by asserting the city's independence after her Arab husband, Odaenat, died.

"She was very ambitious for her son, Wabballat, but she was also a strong personality in her own right," Assad said.

Dubbed "the most beautiful woman in the orient," she wore Roman purple and addressed her troops on horseback like an emperor of campaign. She followed political developments in Rome and hired a Greek philosopher, Longinus, as an advisor.



About half of ancient Palmyra has been unearthed.

lowed political developments in Rome and hired a Greek philosopher, Longinus, as an advisor.

Zenobia was seized by the Romans near the Euphrates river while riding a camel to seek help

against the emperor Aurelian's siege of Palmyra. According to some historians,

she was taken to Rome where she married a Roman senator and lived in a villa at Tivoli.

A professional's best friend — fax

This is the second of a two part article

The technology to connect the devices directly to personal computers and to electronic mail networks at large companies now exists. They may even be connected to U.S. Faxes, a "smart" fax network — it has such things as confidential mailboxes — that its operators hope will replace American Telephone & Telegraph Co. (AT&T) service as the chief means of facsimile communication. Run by the Philadelphia-based U.S. Fax Inc., this long-distance network purports to lower transmission costs to as little as one-fourth the cost of AT&T hookups.

If the person at the receiving end has not partaken of this new technology and has no fax machine, no matter. There are fax delivery services.

In fact, the U.S. Postal Service offers what it claims is the "fastest mail service in the world," Intelpost. For a charge of \$10 for the first page and \$6 for each subsequent one, the Postal Service promises to arrange delivery of a facsimile message to almost any address in 34 countries, an area with 700 million people, in some cases within three hours of transmission.

Indeed, several private companies have planted their stakes in the fax delivery market as well. Since July 1987, Word-X has offered guaranteed domestic fax deliveries within three hours. The company will pick up a document, fax it to a far-off office and then drop off the reproduction locally for \$35.

Another contender is Satellite Overnight Service, a new branch

of the DHL Corp. courier service, which advertises service to 150 business centres in 43 countries with money-back guaranteed overnight delivery.

The interesting thing about facsimiles is that the basic technology is not all that new. Rather, minor adjustments in circuitry, improved designs and precipitous price reductions is what has fuelled the mushrooming market.

The concept for the facsimile was first developed by Alexander Bain, a Scottish clock maker, who in 1842 transmitted a rough image over a short distance. In 1850 F.C. Bakewell, a British inventor, unveiled his own "copying telegraph," which utilised a pen dipped in varnish pressed against a rotating cylinder, wrapped in tinfoil, that traced an image. During the 1920s, German engineers improved the system enough to permit the transmission of photographs.

By the time World War II came, facsimile machines, though slow and cumbersome, were widely used in the military for transmitting drawings and tactical and weather maps.

News services employed facsimiles for rapid routing of photographs to newspapers and television. Police departments faxed mug shots and fingerprints between bureaus. By 1964 according to one estimate, more than 40,000 simple drum scanners, known as Desk-Faxes, were sending and receiving about 50 million messages a year.

In 1980, an industry group known as the Consultative Com-

mittee on International Telephone and Telegraph based in Geneva, Switzerland, agreed on certain classifications for fax machines of specific technology and capability.

Group I machines use a method called analog transmission to send images at the rate of four to six minutes per page. Produced mainly by America's Xerox Corporation during the mid-1960s, these machines dominated the market until the introduction of Group II machines during the early 1970s by Graphic Sciences and the 3M Co., two U.S. data processing firms. The newer machines could crank out a page every two or three minutes.

Nowadays, the ones that dominate the market belong to Group III. Introduced during the late 1970s, these machines transmit images digitally at rates of less than one minute per page, and often less than 30 seconds, and make up an estimated 96 per cent of all facsimile machines in place today. Coming soon: Group IV faxes, which will handle a page in as little as three seconds.

The prevalence of all this high-tech gadgetry has made for some clever business practices. Gordon Wheaton, owner of Auto Body Menders Inc. in Cheverly, Maryland, says he avoids hours of confusion on telephone orders between parts departments, suppliers, estimators, and insurance companies by faxing orders and photographs. Fax has sharpened his business. "I'll bet that within six months every body shop and car dealer in the area will be tied in to this network."

Even more so than in the United States, facsimile machines have swept Japanese business markets. Since written Japanese characters do not lend themselves to personal computer transmission, the fax has literally changed the way whole companies conduct their business.

In fields such as publishing, where editorial changes must move along swiftly, the fax prevails. According to Jeff Spring of the American Chemical Society, the organisation is installing faxes in its 50 editorial offices in universities and research centres around the United States to hasten the production of its 18 technical journals.

At the headquarters of the International Monetary Fund in Washington, Graham P. Newman, assistant chief of the information division, reports that the agency has installed some 30 faxes in its main building to smooth communications with its offices in Paris and Geneva.

Among insurance companies, faxes transmit client portfolios from office to office. The same is true of physicians who move case histories, even pictures of X-rays, from office to hospital to emergency room. Members of the U.S. Congress and lobbyists pass notes pertaining to upcoming legislative decisions from room to room on Capitol Hill.

In Westborough, Massachusetts, Alden Electronics Inc. has devised a facsimile system for banks to help verify signatures. Using Signifax, a bank can send replicas of signatures on checks, passbooks or any other significant financial document back and forth between

branches in a matter of seconds.

In fact, Alden has been in the fax business since 1946, when it began manufacturing specialised image transmission systems for the military, airlines and shipping companies, particularly for sending maps. It produces the faxes used by recreational boats as well as commercial vessels to translate high-frequency radio transmissions by the U.S. National Weather Service and the U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration into weather charts.

And if ever the fax were made for a professional, the lawyer is it. "I was in Saint-Tropez (France)...relaxing on the beach when I got a message from my office," says Timothy L. Dickinson, a partner in the law firm of Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher in Washington. A case he had been working on suddenly heated up. It "desperately needed my attention." From his briefcase he removed a miniature portable fax. "I went right to a pay phone and received the documents I needed to review."

He says he is testing out a particular model for his firm. If all goes well, a briefcase fax will become standard issue for lawyers in the firm.

Dickinson, who is constantly on the go, adds that "this portable fax allows me to go anywhere, where there's any type of telephone, and stay in communication with my office and my clients. I do international commercial work, receive contracts, edit them and send them back to clients from almost anywhere in the world."

— Insight magazine



New Paris museum boasts romantic life

By Marilyn August
Reuters

PARIS — Leave it to the amorous French. Who else would take a dilapidated 19th century villa and turn it into a museum dedicated to preserving and promoting the "romantic life of yesterday?"

Tourists take note. Just a stone's throw from the hustle and bustle of Pigalle and the Moulin Rouge is a haven of peace and quiet tucked away at the end of an unpaved, ivy-covered alley. The museum of romantic life is a small, two-storey house known as the Rean-Scheffer, after its most famous inhabitants — painter Ary Scheffer and historian Ernest Renan, who later married Scheffer's niece.

Restored to its former grace and charm, the villa recreates the life and times of the writers, artists and musicians who gathered there for Scheffer's fashionable Friday soirées.

They lived in what is known today as the Saint-Georges quarter, a residential neighbourhood bordered by Pigalle to the north and the Saint-Lazare train station to the south, flooded with young artists who shunned the opulence and snobbery of Saint Germain on the Left Bank.

Post-impressionist painters Edouard Vuillard and Pierre Bonnard shared a studio down the street. Victor Hugo met Juliette Drouot, the love of his

life, on the Rue de Clichy nearby. Charles Baudelaire, Alexandre Dumas and Edouard Manet were neighbours, too, while Vincent Van Gogh later would work in his brother's art gallery on the same street.

Located at 16 Rue Chaptal, the house was built in 1830 with the accent on calm and quiet, in keeping with the romantic belief in a return to nature. It was classified as a historical monument in the 1950s to ensure it would survive a development boom that saw the demise of many unprotected landmarks.

Flanked by gardens, the house also has its own glassed-in winter garden, with a fountain gushing over Jasmin and moss-covered rocks.

The museum opened to the public last weekend (June 10) with an exhibit on 19th century novelist George Sand, a feminist before her time.

Born Amandine Aurore Lucie Dupin, she created a scandal by going around in male attire and wearing a dagger at her hip, changing her name and carrying on love affairs with such notables as poet Alfred De Musset and composer Frederick Chopin about which she later wrote.

The ground floor features a recreation of her living room, decorated with family portraits, etchings and magnificent period furniture which has been in her family for generations. Also displayed are dozens of knick-knacks, jewelry, letters — and even snippings of her baby curls framed under glass.

On show until Oct. 1 is a special exhibition of three versions of "Le larmoyeur," (the weeper), one of Scheffer's best-known paintings.

Though he has fallen into near-total oblivion, Scheffer was one of the 19th century's most successful artists. Scorned by the critics but adored by the public, he even gave drawing lessons to King Louis Philippe's children.

"Scheffer is very interesting to art historians because he is at the crossroads of all the tendencies and influences of the 19th century," said museum curator Anne-Marie Brem.

By David Ress
Reuters

KIBAGARE SHANTYTOWN, Kenya — For two hours the fire raged through the shanty town of Kibagare, reducing its tiny shacks — built mainly of cardboard, wood scraps and plastic garbage bags — to cinders and charred timber.

By the time the fire brigade arrived it had destroyed the homes of 3,000 people-packed on about two acres (less than a hectare) of steep, muddy hillside in the outskirts of Nairobi.

About half of Nairobi's 1.2 million people live in shanty towns like Kibagare, which are springing up across Africa as the hungry and jobless leave the countryside for the cities.

"It would be better to be home if there was anything to go back to, but we have no farm and there is no work there," said Josephine Osonyo, gazing blankly at a patch of bare clay about eight paces

square — all that remained of the house where she, her husband and her eight children lived.

It had been one of the biggest houses in Kibagare.

She and thousands of others in Kibagare shared one standpipe for water. An open sewer ran down the middle of the path to her house and down every other muddy path on the hillside.

The people of Kibagare used old cartons to line their walls and block the wet and chilling wind of Kenya's rainy season, but the packed mud floors of their houses were damp and cold when visitors kicked off their shoes as manners

here demand.

"Cities in developing countries are using an infrastructure built for the 1960s. They are lagging behind the growth of population which means people are getting worse off," said Rolf Wichmann, a programme officer at the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements in Nairobi.

"There is no way we can stop the people," Kenya's Housing Minister Darius Mbela said last year.

"Now we do not tell the people to go back to the land because we do not have adequate land to start with," he added.

Kenya's rural exodus leads to hunger, need and shanty town squalor

decades, some of these country folk will go to places like Kibagare — a vast expanse of mud and stick houses sprawling over two valleys and a ridge to the east of Nairobi.

The name means either "an empty thing" or "junkyard" in the Kikuyu language of central Kenya.

Korogochi is packed with as many as 300,000 people — nobody knows for sure.

It is hard to stand upright in some of the houses, the roofs are so low.

Grass thatch and garbage bags do not keep the rain off very well and mud walls tend to sink after a few years, leaving windows at knee height, level with the heaps of garbage which line the streets. The smell is inescapable.

Most children in Korogochi have running noses. In another nearby shanty town, doctors have just reported a deadly outbreak of meningitis. Disease is rife.

In Nigeria, the population of Lagos has jumped 10-fold since 1970 to an estimated three million. Ivory Coast's largest city Abidjan, where 20,000 people lived in 1945, now has about two million.

Nairobi's population has exploded from about 270,000 at independence in 1963 and some projections suggest it will top five million by the year 2050.

Wichmann said most growth was caused by Africans streaming away from the countryside.

In Kenya, where the population is due to double within two

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Industrial nations shun Third World development meeting

CARACAS (R) — The poor nations of the world are in Caracas this week to talk about their development needs and their \$1.3 trillion debt burden.

But the rich nations that might help them out of their misery are conspicuously absent. The 120 Third World countries, meeting as the group of 77 — their original number when they organised 25 years ago — require much more than the sum they already owe to solve their urgent development problems.

But only Canada of the world's major industrialised democracies has sent a senior observer — Foreign Secretary Joe Clark — to the week-long meeting in the Venezuelan capital.

Many of the big creditor nations see the meeting as long on talks and short on accomplishment, and will assign diplomats from their Caracas embassies to monitor the sessions.

"We'll report back home anything of importance that happens," a Western diplomat said. But they clearly think little will happen, with most delegates contenting the Third World's call for debt forgiveness and for new loans on concessionary terms.

The delegates concede, however, that some of the blame for their inability to achieve fast-paced growth was due to their own economic and political shortcomings.

The United States, Britain and France, three major leaders to the Third World, are sending no observers and plan to have their

embassies monitor the proceedings. Nor is the World Bank sending anyone.

"We're not particularly welcome," a bank official said in Washington.

Many Third World nations resent the austere economic structures the bank imposes on them in return for granting developmental loans.

They see the bank's demands as interference in their internal affairs.

Aside from Canada's Clark, the only other official observers are from China, Greece, Australia and Spain, and none will match his rank.

"(The Canadians) want to make a big splash in the Third World," a diplomat said.

U.S. officials said the Caracas session was a time for the group of 77 to thrash out a development strategy that rich creditor nations would assess later.

This assessment would come at meetings of the group of seven industrial nations in Paris, the European Community heads of government meeting in Madrid and at various other meetings of Third World creditor countries.

The U.S. officials also say that the issue of repaying Third World debt is really out of the hands of developing countries and will be dealt with by the industrialised

nations and their private banks.

Efforts now are concentrated on a plan put forward by U.S. Treasury Secretary Nicholas Brady, under which the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) would pool money to guarantee Third World debt payments.

The Brady plan so far has run into a lukewarm response from Third World debtor nations, who argue that it falls short of what is needed to enable them to economic stagnation and vitalise their economies.

Meanwhile, Latin America hopes to agree this week on a proposal to cut its \$401-billion foreign debt by half.

"We have to devote all our efforts to reaching a united proposal," Carlos Perez del Castillo, permanent secretary of the 26-nation Latin American and Caribbean Economic System (SELA), said at the start of a two-day conference.

The SELA meeting, attended by Deputy Finance Ministers from member countries, must achieve results by Wednesday or see the regional blueprint lose credibility, he said.

Under the plan, announced in May, the region's foreign debt would be cut by 50 per cent and payments by 75 per cent with the conversion of half the debt into long-term bonds guaranteed by creditors. Critics claim the plan too ambitious.

"We are seeking greater con-

vergence among ourselves," Presidency Minister Reinaldo Figueredo, speaking on behalf of Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez, said in a speech opening the meeting.

Perez del Castillo said successful debt reduction could free Latin economies to grow at rates of up to seven per cent a year as they did in the 1960s and 1970s. In the current decade, growth slowed to between one and two per cent as countries repaid their debt instead of investing in development.

"There is no future for Latin America and the Caribbean without economic development," he said.

Delegates from Peru, Mexico, Venezuela, Nicaragua and Jamaica told Reuters they backed the SELA plan in general terms and did not see it as unrealistic.

"We consider it a bold proposal," said Hugh Taylor, director of the Macro-Economics Division of Jamaica's planning institute.

While welcoming efforts to cut Third World debt, including the plan proposed by Brady, the officials said they were concerned at the resistance of creditor banks to implement them.

Latin America owes most of its foreign debt to commercial banks.

Figueredo said the banks were hardening their attitude and were not doing enough to help prepare regulations to permit debt reduction.

Checchi buys Northwest Airlines for \$3.6b

ST. PAUL, Minn. (R) — The three-month battle for NWA Inc ended Monday when the parent of Northwest Airlines (NWA)

accepted a \$3.6 billion bid from a group led by Los Angeles investor Alfred Checchi.

The \$121-a-share offer by Wings Holding Group, which include such diverse parties as KLM Royal Dutch Airlines and Australia's elders IXL, a conglomerate with large brewing operations, creates a highly leveraged company which analysts said would likely have to sell assets to cut debt.

Northwest, the nation's fourth largest airline, owns a large U.S. route system and an up-to-date fleet of 321 aircraft. It recently returned to financial health after having trouble incorporating its Minneapolis rival, Republic Airlines.

It has also been an attractive buyout target because of its valuable routes across the Pacific, where it is the biggest U.S. car-

rier, and its rich real estate holdings in Japan.

The Wings group will begin a tender offer in the next five days to buy all outstanding NWA shares, Checchi and the airline said in a joint statement.

The battle for control of the St. Paul-based airline began in late March when an investor, now known to be Checchi, acquired a 4.9 per cent stake in the carrier.

The takeover battle included two rounds of bidding and at least five interested parties, including groups led by billionaire oil investor Marvin Davis, struggling U.S. carrier Pan Am and Northwest's labour unions.

Airline industry analysts said the wings bid beat out other offers because it had slightly less debt and was looked on more favourably by the unions at Northwest.

Hong Kong bans ivory imports

HONG KONG (R) — Hong Kong has banned raw ivory imports in a bid to reserve the dwindling African elephant population, a government spokesman has said. Earlier this month a task force was set up to battle illegal ivory trading in the British colony. Hong Kong has long been a major ivory carving centre. Intricate designs on whole elephant tusks are especially prized.

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Jordanian students desirous of pursuing studies in institutes of higher education in India are required to follow the undermentioned procedure for obtaining student visas from the Consular Section of the Embassy of India in Jordan, P.O. Box 2168, First Circle, Jabal Amman, Amman. Tel. No. 622098/637262.

1. The student has first to get an admission certificate from a university/college in India before approaching the embassy for a student visa.
2. The certificate should be admission certificate and not repeat not eligibility certificate.
3. The admission certificate issued by an affiliated college is further to be certified by the university that the college is affiliated to it.
4. The documents mentioned at S. No. (2) and (3) should be authenticated by the concerned Indian state government of the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India.
5. Financial guarantee from father/guardian of the student seeking admission accompanied by a bank guarantee.
6. Evidence of transfer of adequate funds for a minimum four months stay in India or production travellers cheques for an adequate amount.

ECONOMIC NEWS BRIEFS

'Venezuela inflation to double in 1989'

CARACAS (R) — Inflation in Venezuela will rise by 65-70 per cent during 1989, almost double last year's increase in the cost of living, Planning Minister Miguel Rodriguez said. "Without trying to make definite predictions, the total figure for the whole year could be between 65 and 70 per cent," Rodriguez told reporters at Miraflores, the presidential palace. Rodriguez said the accumulated inflation rate of 52.7 per cent for the year up to now may would slow down in the second semester, as the government's austerity programme took effect. Venezuela, which for many years had one of the lowest inflation rates in Latin America, last year saw the cost of living rise 35.5 per cent, following an increase of 40.3 per cent the year before.

U.S. has \$78m in arrears to FAO

ROME (R) — The United States is \$78 million behind in contributions to the U.N. Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO) and both Washington and Japan have made no payments so far for 1989, the FAO said Monday. Director-General Edouard Saouma, appealing for prompt payment by all member nations, said the United States, FAO's largest donor and meant to provide 25 per cent of its funds, was in arrears for 1986, 1987 and 1988. "The future of FAO depends on the resources at its disposal to meet new and increasing needs," Saouma told the opening of a 10-day session of the FAO council. "In view of population expansion and the persistent economic crisis in the poorest countries, it must be recognised that there can be no lasting solution without an expansion of our activities and therefore our resources," he said.

Cyprus to liberalise banking system

NICOSIA (R) — The Central Bank of Cyprus plans to relax its tight hold of foreign exchange dealings. The changes, set for Nov. '92, will allow local banks to deal independently although exchange controls will remain and the value of the Cyprus pound will still be dominated by an official rate, a senior central bank manager, Eleftherios Ioannou, told Reuters on Monday. Up to now banks have been limited to dealing through the central bank at the official rate. "What we have in mind... is to give banks the ability to quote their own rates for large sums," Ioannou said. Banks would also be able to invest their own foreign currency without being obliged to keep a large part of it with the central bank, Ioannou said.

Africans urged to consider ivory cartel

KAMPALA, Uganda (AP) — African leaders have been urged to consider establishing a marketing cartel to ensure that money from the worldwide ivory trade benefits the continent. The call for the cartel was among recommendations made over the weekend by delegates to an African environmental conference in Uganda's capital Kampala. The delegates urged the 50-member Organisation of African Unity (OAU) to study a marketing mechanism that would limit the amount of ivory to be sold and keep the profits in Africa. They suggested establishment of an organisation similar to that of the oil producing and exporting countries, which sets limits on much of the world's crude oil production.

Colombia suspends oil exports

BOGOTA (R) — Colombia has suspended its crude oil exports following a guerrilla attack Friday on the country's main oil pipeline, the president of the state-owned oil company said Monday. Andres Restrepo Londono, president of Empresa Colombiana de Petroleos (Ecopetrol), said in a radio interview that Colombia will be out of the market for at least three weeks and would lose about five million barrels in production. Guerrillas launched a devastating attack Friday on the area in the Caribbean where Colombia's oil is loaded from a pipeline into tankers for export. The pro-Cuban National Liberation Army has bombed the pipeline more than 100 times since 1986 to press its demands that the government expel all foreign oil firms present in Colombia, the Defence Ministry said.

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Manila faces problems in attracting investments

MANILA (AP) — The Philippines hopes to benefit from any exodus of foreign business from China, but officials and businessmen say the country faces problems in efforts to exploit the opportunity for greater investment.

Business analysts in the region have cited the Philippines, Indonesia and Thailand as alternative sites for businesses that may relocate from China after the turmoil, in which thousands of people were killed or wounded. The bloody June 3-4 clashes have raised fears about the risks of investing in China.

Since President Corazon Aquino took office three years ago, the government has sought foreign investment to revive its economy after 20 years of misrule under ousted president Ferdinand Marcos.

Aquino inherited a \$28 billion foreign debt from Marcos, who was ousted in a 1986 popular uprising.

"The corporations that are investing in China will have to make a decision on whether they will continue their expansion there or probe other places because of the events there now," said Trade and Industry Secretary Jose Concepcion.

"They will be looking for other countries. The Philippines is high in their priority because the Philippines is nearest," Concepcion said. He said the government would hasten processing of papers for investors and send trade missions abroad to encourage investment here.

Apart from its proximity to major Asian markets, the Philippines offers investors advantages including a largely English-speaking labour force, a national literacy rate of more than 80 per cent and relatively low wage levels.

Many of its manufactured goods can be shipped to the U.S. market at preferential tariff rates granted to developing countries.

But some officials and businessmen cite major problems standing in the way of attracting investors. These include a lack of adequate highways, bridges and telephone facilities, a 20-year-old communist insurgency and bureaucratic red tape.

"They've announced that they'll be doing something about it, but it's so vague and so gener-

al," said Louie Arriola, chief of the investment and management services division of Unirwell group, a New York investment firm.

"Clean the toilets and provide good traffic lights"

"They should stabilise the peace-and-order situation. The economic investment laws must clearly be defined," Arriola said. "Let's go back to the basics first — clean the toilets and provide good traffic lights."

According to the government's Board of Investments, total foreign investment in the country in 1988 amounted to 10.11 billion pesos (\$481 million). Most came from Japan, Hong Kong and Taiwan.

But serious infrastructure problems inhibit greater foreign business here. Companies sometimes must wait for a year to have a telephone line installed in Manila.

Much of the country suffers from serious shortages of electricity that cause frequent "brown-outs" in high-use summer months.

The country has a primitive, largely single-track rail system, and only in southeastern and central Luzon, the main Philippine island.

Philippine law sets a ceiling of 40 per cent on the amount of foreign capital in any enterprise. But Concepcion said the limit is routinely waived for firms that will export all their products from the Philippines.

Ernesto Arroyo, director of the Board of Investments, said significant incentive measures are required to lure foreign investors.

But most require approval of the slow-moving Philippine congress, he said. Among the proposed incentives is a controversial Taiwan investment act, which would guarantee Taiwanese investments and protect them from claims by the mainland China government.

The bill is pending in Congress. But the Department of Foreign Affairs has objected to the measure, saying it would violate the Philippines' "One-China policy," which recognises Beijing as the only government of all China.

AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

Tuesday, June 20, 1989
Central Bank official rates

U.S. dollar	Buy	Sell	Swiss franc	332.6	335.9
Pound Sterling	566.3	572.3	French franc	94.7	95.5
Deutschemark	877.5	886.3	Japanese yen (for 100)	394.6	398.5
	287.5	290.0	Dutch guilder	255.0	257.6
			Swedish crown	85.0	85.9
			Italian lire (for 100)	39.6	40.0
			Belgian franc (for 10)	137.3	138.7

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Tuesday.

One Sterling	1.5573/83	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.1980/90	Canadian dollar
	1.9700/07	Deutschemarks
	2.2188/98	Dutch guilders
	1.7043/53	Swiss francs
	41.21/26	Belgian francs
	6.6775/6825	French francs
	1428/1429	Italian lire
	143.55/65	Japanese yen
	6.6500/50	Swedish crowns
	7.1450/1500	Norwegian crowns
	7.6625/75	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	366.50/367.00	U.S. dollars

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

SYDNEY — Offshore buying and demand from domestic institutions pushed the Australian share market higher by the close. The All Ordinaries Index rose 9.7 to 1,536.4.

TOKYO — Blue chips led the market to a morning rebound but share prices hovered in a narrow band most of the afternoon, closing broadly higher in moderate trading. The Nikkei gained 220.9 to close at 33,233.47.

HONG KONG — Stocks drifted slightly lower in thin and uneventful trading in the absence of fresh corporate or political news. The Hang Seng Index fell 4.7 to 2,337.71.

SINGAPORE — The market closed mixed in subdued trading. The Straits Times Industrial Index slipped 1.28 to 1,303.12.

BOMBAY — Prices rose selectively in hectic trading behind market leaders Tata Steel and Tata Engineering and Locomotive Co. Telco, which posted a net profit of 700.5 million rupees, jumped 24 rupees to 847.5. Tata Steel rallied 30 to 1,390 on expectations of a similar improvement in results.

FRANKFURT — Continued strong interest in blue chips led prices to their second successive post-crash high this week. The Dax Index peaked at 1,481.80 before closing on profit-taking at 1,472.11, up 15.12.

ZURICH — Shares closed at their highest level of the year, boosted by declining Swiss interest rates. The All-Share Index rose 5.6 to 1,087.4.

PARIS — Prices ended firmer in moderately active trading, recovering from recent steady losses and struggling off morning news of higher May inflation.

LONDON — Shares held early gains in late business as sterling put in a steadier performance by showing little reaction to the latest U.K. bank lending and money supply figures. At 1527 the FTSE Index was up 16.3 at 2,171.0.

NEW YORK — Blue chips were slightly higher in mid-morning trading but were unable to make much headway amid a lack of fresh news. Firm bond prices and a strong dollar offered support. The Dow was up seven at 2,486.

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SPORTS IN BRIEF

CHINA-THAILAND WORLD CUP (SOCCER) TIE POSTPONED — China's World Cup soccer qualifying tie with Thailand June 28 has been re-scheduled for July 29, an International Football Federation (FIFA) official said in Zurich Monday. The venue is still to be decided. Thailand asked for a postponement until the political situation in China stabilized. Iran head the East Asia Group Five with eight points. China are two adrift with a game in hand. The East Asian group six tie between Hong Kong and North Korea postponed from June 11 is now due on to be played July 2. (R)

OUTRAGED MARADONA RENEWS THREAT TO LEAVE NAPOLI (SOCCER) — An outraged Diego Maradona Monday renewed threats to leave UEFA cup winners Napoli, slamming fans as "cretins" after they whistled him from the pitch in Sunday's goalless draw against bottom club Pisa. The Argentine World Cup star quit the Italian first division game with a muscle injury in the 17th minute but thousands of fans, interpreting his exit as petulance, submitted him to a barrage of jeers he had experienced only once before in five years at the club. "The people who whistled are ignorant cretins. I don't allow anyone to doubt my professionalism," Maradona told a private television station in Naples. "I want to stay at Napoli but if Napoli's peace of mind has got to depend on me ... then I say what I have already said in the past ... that if need be I am ready to go," he said. Maradona, who is contracted to Napoli until 1993, said he had reaffirmed that offer Sunday to club president Corrado Ferlaino and general manager Luciano Moggi. Sunday's incident prompted Maradona to leave the stadium at halftime and appeared to have fuelled bitterness within the club. (R)

FIGHT PROPOSED BETWEEN TYSON AND FOOTBALL PLAYER — Boxing promoter Don King and billionaire Donald Trump have shown new interest in a proposed fight between heavyweight champion Mike Tyson and Tony Mandarich, draft pick of pro football's Green Bay Packers, an agent in Milwaukee says. Agent Vern Sharbaugh, who represents Mandarich, said he met for more than two hours last week with King at the promoter's headquarters in Orwell, Ohio. "I was encouraged simply by the fact that we met," Sharbaugh said in an interview Monday in the Milwaukee Sentinel newspaper. "If King wasn't at all interested, we never would have met." Mandarich, a 6-foot-5 (195-centimetre), 310-pound (140-kilogramme) football player from Michigan State University, was the second pick in the recent National Football League draft but has not signed a contract. Mandarich has said he wants \$10 million to fight Tyson. No financial terms have been discussed with King, Sharbaugh said. "Mike Tyson has a press conference and said he wanted to fight (Mandarich). Tony wants to fight. The public wants this fight. Donald Trump is excited. But it's all up to Don King," Sharbaugh said. But Bill Cayton, Tyson's estranged manager, said Monday in New York that "there's not a chance the fight will happen." It's ridiculous. He (Mandarich) can't fight. He's never fought."

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OSMAR SARAF
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AVOID THOSE NASTY PROBLEMS

Both vulnerable. North deals.

NORTH
♠ A K 8 4
♥ K 6
♦ K Q J 10 5
♣ Q 2

EAST
♠ 5
♥ A J 5 2
♦ 9 7 4 3
♣ K 8 5 3

WEST
♠ Q J 6
♥ Q 9 7 3
♦ 6 2
♣ J 10 9 4

SOUTH
♠ 10 9 7 3 2
♥ 10 8 4
♦ A 8
♣ A 7 6

The bidding:
North East South West
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass
3 ♠ Pass 4 ♠ Pass
Pass Pass

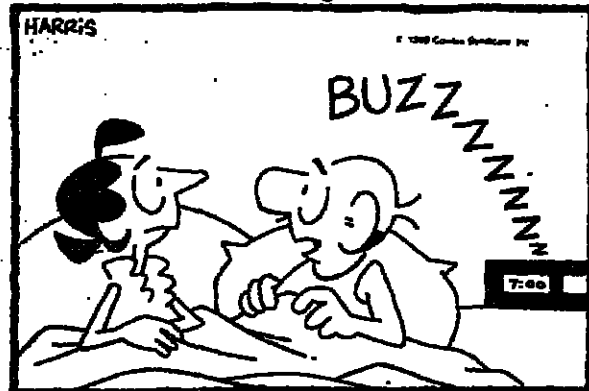
Opening lead: Jack of ♠

There's a world of difference between the play of the hand at duplicate and rubber bridge. Here's another example of how divergent the forms of competition can be.

Four spades is an eminently reasonable contract. North is close to a raise to four spades, but since he can't be sure whether his queen of clubs is working, the more conservative three spades gets our vote. South has ample to go on to game.

THE BETTER HALF

By Harris



"Every morning, right before I wake up, I have the same nightmare — I'm about to be attacked by a giant bee!"

JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

EUNEQ
□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

KYDUS
□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

TARBUL
□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

GUMSED
□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer here: THEY JUST BY

(Answer's tomorrow)

Jumbles: ORBIT APPLY CHARGE BIGAMY

Answer: Candies on birthday cakes help people make this "LIGHT" OF THEIR AGE



Michael Chang, no. 9 seed: great things expected

Wimbledon seedings

MEN

1, Ivan Lendl, Czechoslovakia. 2, Stefan Edberg, Sweden. 3, Boris Becker, West Germany. 4, Mats Wilander, Sweden. 5, John McEnroe, United States. 6, Jakob Hlasek, Switzerland. 7, Miloslav Mezir, Czechoslovakia. 8, Tim Mayotte, United States. 9, Michael Chang, United States. 10, Jimmy Connors, United States. 11, Brad Gilbert, United States. 12, Kevin Curren, United States. 13, Aaron Krickstein, United States. 14, Andrei Chesnokov, Soviet Union. 15, Mikael Pernfors, Sweden.

WOMEN

1, Steffi Graf, West Germany. 2, Martina Navratilova, United States. 3, Gabriela Sabatini, Argentina. 4, Chris Evert, United States. 5, Zina Garrison, United States. 6, Helena Sukova, Czechoslovakia. 7, Arantxa Sanchez, Spain. 8, Pam Shriver, United States. 9, Natalia Zvereva, Soviet Union. 10, Jana Novotna, Czechoslovakia. 11, Monica Seles, Yugoslavia. 12, Mary Joe Fernandez, United States. 13, Helen Klesi, Canada. 14, Hana Mandlikova, Australia. 15, Lori McNeil, United States.



Arantxa Sanchez, no. 7 seed

FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21, 1989

YOUR DAILY HOROSCOPE

by Thomas Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: The summer solstice occurs today — Happy Birthday Moon Children! This is the time of year when the fruits of our labors ripen for harvest and provide life-giving nourishment and sensual pleasure.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19): Think twice before making changes. Consult others who could be affected by your plans. Avoid rash decisions and temperamental outbursts.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20): It may be difficult to understand what all the excitement is about. Those around you may not be in the same productive and tranquil mood.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21): There is promise of a better financial outlook. Current ideas have merit, but you must transfer them from thinking into doing.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21): Make new beginnings and revitalize your environment. Maximize your spiritual, mental and economic progress.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21): It may take most of the day for you to get your thinking cap on and settle down. Be alert to a hidden matter that surfaces.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22): Your power of analysis increases as the day unfolds. Negative feelings surrounding your career turn optimistic.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22): Emotional disappointment can occupy your thinking. Home matters are disturbing. Be fair in what you do and say.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21): Your self-confidence is at a high point. A recent opportunity appears promising and has you feeling hopeful.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21): Someone may want to push you into an area where you don't want to go. Be precise in how, what, and to whom you speak.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20): Focus on career, business, and new beginnings. Family members may feel that you are preoccupied and distant. Share your time.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19): Save outspoken criticism for another day. Develop friendships with people who have similar pleasures with the family.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20): Someone with a watchdog mentality needs a muzzle. Turn a deaf ear to gossip. Enjoy evening pleasures with the family.

If Your Child Is Born Today: He or she will have the gift of insight and intellectual accuracy. Your child will have communication skills and the ability to expand ideas to their full potential. He or she will be affectionate and sympathetic.

"The Stars impel; they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you!
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Chang says spotlight doesn't bother him

LONDON (AP) — While most American teen-agers are celebrating the end of school year, Michael Chang is about to start receiving an education in what it means to be a 17-year-old tennis star.

Chang was welcomed to Wimbledon last year as a raw, hustling kid and was praised for managing to win a set against seventh-seeded Henri Leconte of France. This year he enters one of the world's most famous tennis tournaments as the French Open champion. Monday he was seeded ninth for Wimbledon, though his baseline game is ill-suited to grass.

The pressures on Chang will be vastly increased this year — instead of being an upstart gunning to upset established players, he will be the prey coveted by lesser-known players.

He will be subjected to the voracious appetite of Britain's gossip columnists and to constant attention from a phalanx of international photographers and writers, who will examine everything from his Chinese-American roots to his outspoken Christianity.

But the placid Chang said he is not bothered by the spotlight into which he will walk.

"At Wimbledon I have little to lose," he said last week during an exhibition tournament in Holland. Last year I was thrown out (by Leconte) in the second round. I don't feel any extra pressure, it's others who are laying that on my shoulders."

Chang lost all four of his matches on grass in Holland and is already being written off for Wimbledon by some opponents, including three-time champion John McEnroe.

"Chang's game is made for slow surfaces," McEnroe said. "If he gets to the final at Wimbledon, I will drop my pants on centre court."

The French Open champion's difficulties on grass led Wimbledon officials to seed Chang ninth, even though he is sixth in the world rankings. McEnroe, fellow American Tim Mayotte, Jakob Hlasek of Switzerland and Miloslav Mezir of Czechoslovakia all jumped ahead of Chang in the Wimbledon seedings.

West German Boris Becker, who won the first of his two consecutive Wimbledon crowns when he was 17, said the key for Chang is to avoid drastic changes in his life — and his tennis — after winning the French Open. "It's a major step in his career but it's not the end," Becker said. "Now life starts — and that's difficult to accept at his age. He must make sure next time he goes out on the court it's with the same fire and desire he had in Paris."

Jordan Times

Tel: 667171/4

Italy's soccer stars may fight hooligans strike

MILAN, Italy (AP) — Leading Italian soccer players said Monday they are prepared to stage a strike to protest escalating fan violence.

Some officials suggested that matches posing problems for public order be played in empty stadiums.

Radical solutions were prompted by the latest outburst of soccer hooliganism in the host country of the 1990 World Cup.

Sunday six people suffered burns following a firebomb attack in Florence against a trainload of Bologna fans. Two of the injured, 14-year-old Ivano Dall'oglio and 21-year-old Massimo Accorsi, are hospitalized in critical condition. Police announced that four fans of the Florence team, aged 18 to 25, have been arrested in connection with the train attack, hours before the Fiorentina-Bologna major league match.

They face charges of attempted manslaughter.

Following the train ambush, groups of Bologna fans went on a rampage through downtown streets in Florence, vandalising parked cars and shop windows.

Captains of several Italian major league teams announced following a meeting in Milan that professional soccer players were ready to stop the championship to protest growing violence.

However no immediate action was called. The Italian major league ends Sunday and officials of the players association indicated that any measures would be taken during the next soccer season beginning in August. "We must be ready to halt soccer, if the behaviour of fans does not improve. We must safeguard lives of peaceful supporters from the threats of those going to the stadium to make a war," said

Eraldo Pecci, a veteran midfielder and captain of Bologna.

Sergio Campana, president of the Players Association, suggested that anti-violence appeals by leading players before kick-offs might be a better deterrent.

Renzo Imbemi, the communist mayor of Bologna, said that city officials have the power to order soccer matches played in empty stadiums "whenever serious elements of risk to the public order exist."

Arrigo Gattai, Italy's highest sport authority, said soccer violence can be only overcome "through closer cooperation between police and the clubs." "The most violent elements are often members of organised clubs supporters, who could be easily identified by their clubs," said Gattai, the president of the Italian Olympic Committee.

Switzer resigns, blames rules

NORMAN, Oklahoma (AP) — Barry Switzer resigned Monday as coach of the Oklahoma University football programme and put part of the blame on the regulatory body for the sport.

Switzer said he was frustrated by rules of the National Collegiate Athletic Association that do not "recognise the financial needs of young athletes."

Switzer, who had been pressured to quit since the Oklahoma football programme was put on NCAA probation in December and after several players were charged this year with crimes involving drugs, guns and sexual assault, was the fourth most successful coach in college football history.

"I will never coach at another college level. I promise you that," Switzer said at a news conference.

"It's no fun anymore. I'm drained," said Switzer, 52.

Switzer had come under fire even before Oklahoma was placed on the three-year NCAA probation. He was named in four of the 20 violations, but denied

knowledge of breaking any NCAA rules.

Switzer said he wanted to be a spokesman for changing NCAA rules that he said did not allow coaches to treat athletes humanely.

He said he is "totally frustrated working within a set of rigid rules that does not recognise the financial needs of young athletes."

"I am not making excuses but simply giving an explanation when I say it was difficult to turn my back on these young men when they needed help," Switzer said.

"We have created a system that does not permit me or the program to buy a pair of shoes or a decent coat for a player whose family can't afford these basic necessities," he added.

"How can any coach stick to these rules when a young man's father dies many miles away and the son has no money for a plane ticket home to the funeral?"

Switzer had come under fire months.

Last August, a book by former Oklahoma star player Brian Bos-

worth said players used cocaine and fired guns at the football players' dormitory. Bosworth, who left the team after the 1986 season, said the Oklahoma football programme bordered on anarchy.

Switzer had called Bosworth's claims sensationalism.

The state's largest newspapers called for Switzer's resignation after five of his players were charged with felonies earlier this year.

One player was charged with wounding another player in a dormitory shooting incident. Three players were charged with rape in an alleged assault on a woman. Another player was charged with cocaine possession.

Switzer, who became head coach in 1973, saw his team go undefeated that season. His teams won national championships in 1974 and 1975 and posted a 37-game winning streak from 1973-75. His 1984 team also won a national title.

His winning percentage is one of the best among major college coaches: .844 with 157 victories, 26 losses and four ties.

Rose asks court to bar hearing with commissioner

CINCINNATI (R) — Cincinnati Reds manager Pete Rose, under investigation for illegal gambling, asked a court Monday to bar Major League Baseball commissioner A. Bartlett Giamatti from forcing him to appear at a disciplinary hearing.

Giamatti is considering allegations against Rose that he has bet on baseball games. If Giamatti finds the Reds manager guilty of betting on baseball, Rose — baseball's all-time hit leader — could be suspended. If Rose is found to have bet on Red's games, he could be banned from the game for life.

Rose's attorney, Reuben Katz, said Rose has "consistently de-

nied he has ever bet on the Cincinnati Reds or on baseball games."

In his motion filed in Hamilton County common pleas court, Rose asked the entire case be removed from Giamatti's jurisdiction and given to the courts to decide. Judge Norbert Nadel said he probably will hold a hearing Tuesday on the temporary restraining order sought by Rose.

Giamatti had set next Monday for the disciplinary hearing.

The Reds manager says the commissioner is biased against him, citing Giamatti's statements praising an Ohio bookmaker for his "significant and truthful cooperation" in the case.

Giamatti also asked a federal judge to treat the bookmaker, Ronald Peters, with leniency on charges of cocaine dealing and tax evasion. Peters was sentenced last week to 24 months in federal prison on those charges.

In a statement released last Monday, Giamatti said: "major league baseball's counsel have reviewed the filings and have advised me that Rose's lawsuit is wholly without merit. Baseball's counsel will appear (Tuesday morning) in Cincinnati and oppose Rose's motion."

"I trust the court will permit me to proceed with my hearing," Giamatti.

Peanuts

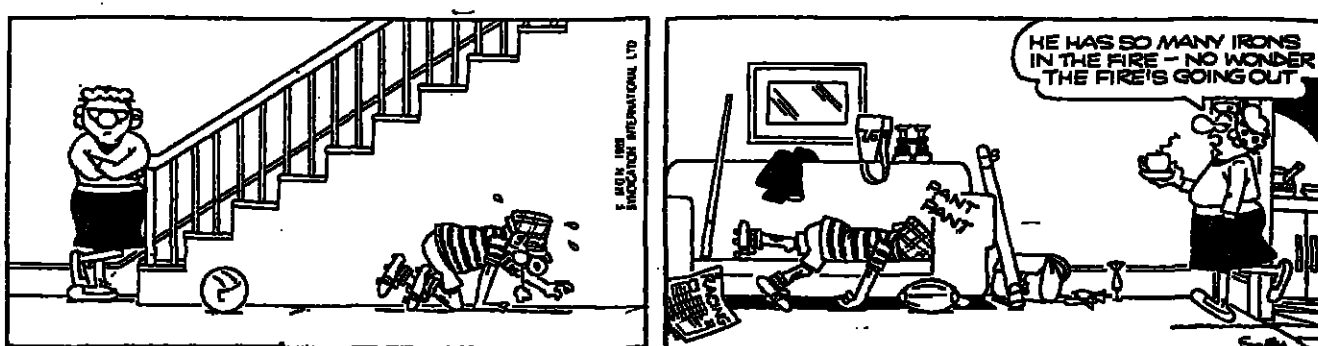


B.C.

BY JOHNNY HART



Andy Capp



Sri Lanka reinstates emergency law to battle leftist rebels

Colombo imposes state of emergency to maintain order

COLOMBO (R) — The Sri Lankan government said Tuesday it was imposing a state of emergency to maintain law and order and transport services hit by a bus strike.

"We are reluctantly compelled to impose a state of emergency to maintain essential services and law and order," Deputy Defence Minister Ranjan Wijeratne told ruling United National Party parliamentarians.

He did not say when the emergency, mainly aimed at leftist rebels trying to overthrow the government, would be enforced.

The government lifted a five-year-old state of emergency in January this year in line with an election promise by President Ranasinghe Premadasa.

Premadasa said he was ending emergency rule because security had improved across the island.

The emergency, first imposed in May 1983 to combat Tamil guerrillas fighting for a separate state, was later used against the leftist People's Liberation Front (JVP) which is trying to overthrow the government from its southern strongholds.

Wijeratne said more than 1,000 people including parliamentarians, police, members of the armed forces and civilians had been killed since the emergency

was lifted. The new emergency regulations give the government power to detain people indefinitely without bringing charges.

Sri Lanka has been rocked by protests in the past three weeks against the presence of 45,000 Indian troops who are on the island to implement an agreement between New Delhi and Colombo to end a separatist Tamil campaign in the north and east.

Premadasa said he would like to see the last Indian soldiers off the island by July 31.

Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi says they will be recalled only after Colombo devolves power to a provincial council in the north and east that looks after the affairs of the Tamils.

On Monday, private bus operators joined state employees in a strike that has paralysed transport. Workers have ignored government calls to return to work and negotiate on their demand for a wage increase.

Port workers in Colombo have also gone on strike but made no



Ranasinghe Premadasa

demands.

Most Sri Lankans believe JVP militants are behind the strikes, which have closed many schools and disrupted work in government and private offices.

Wijeratne, also minister for foreign affairs, said Premadasa lifted the emergency and invited the JVP and the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), the most powerful Tamil guerrilla group, for peace talks.

Only the LTTE responded. The group began a second round of talks with Colombo last week

while continuing its armed campaign.

Wijeratne said killings were going on despite Premadasa's appeal to the JVP.

He said troublemakers, a reference to the JVP, had sabotaged transport services, threatened bus workers and were trying to cripple the economy.

Wijeratne said the opposition had also agreed that the state of emergency should be used to deal with the situation. The parliamentary group of the ruling party had also endorsed the decision.

The JVP stepped up its campaign after Indian troops landed in Sri Lanka in July 1987 and has whipped up anti-Indian sentiment in the country.

Since the arrival of the Indians, the front's campaign has cost more than 3,000 lives. More than 10,000 people have been killed in the Tamil rebellion since 1983.

Diplomatic sources said they were unsure whether the state of emergency would be effective.

"They do have a chance of controlling the situation but it is going to be very difficult. Nobody can say one way or the other whether they will succeed or not," said one Western diplomat.



Chinese soldiers hunting for pro-democracy activists inspect the baggage of a student outside a railway station in Peking

British journalist says China movement still alive

HONG KONG (AP) — A British journalist arrested twice for violating martial law arrived in Hong Kong Tuesday and said the pro-democracy movement remains alive in China, despite government statements and actions against it.

Brian Barrow, Asian correspondent of the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC), said Chinese authorities returned his passport Monday after holding it for a week following his second arrest.

He was required to write a "self-criticism" for violating martial law restrictions on reporting. Barrow, 49, accompanied by his wife, daughter and three members of his television crew, said he had not been expelled and was free to return to China any time. He was based in Hong Kong.

"We were free to leave when we liked and we chose to leave today," he said. "After our holiday I hope to go back to China and continue reporting."

"I don't think the pro-democracy movement in the sense of mass feelings of change has been crushed," he told reporters at Hong Kong airport.

"In fact when we drove to the airport this morning, we did see a few truckloads of troops, but we also saw at least one individual pass our bus and give the V sign ... the symbol of the pro-democracy movement."

Barrow said the man was on a bicycle and appeared simply to be one of millions of Peking residents heading to work. "We interpreted it as a gesture of defiance ... or support for the pro-democracy movement."

Barrow was first detained June 8, four days after the massacre by troops in Peking, while he and his crew were filming a burned-out tank in the eastern part of the capital.

"We were forced to kneel on the road at gunpoint," said Barrow, a reporter in China for 15 years. "It was awful, frightening."

Their equipment was seized, parts smashed and one camera still not returned. His second detention a week ago was "entirely different. We did self-criticisms, we were not abused in any way and after three hours of interrogation we were allowed to go to our hotel."

"We were in breach of martial law so I had no qualms about signing the document," Barrow said.

Under martial law, foreign reporters are barred among other things from talking to Chinese about martial law or taking pictures of soldiers. Journalists generally have ignored the regulations.

Barrow said he continued reporting after the second arrest, and no effort was made to stop him.

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COLUMN

Making up

STATHAM, Georgia (AP) — Talk show host Johnny Carson says he's going to buy a new stove and refrigerator for two elderly sisters who spent 20 years fighting city hall over their water bills. "I was already thrilled she was on television," Viola Crow, 79, said Saturday after watching her sister on Carson's The Tonight Show. "But when he said he was going to give us the stove and the refrigerator — well, Oh my, it was just great." Carolyn Freeman, 70, told Carson Friday night how she and her sister had told city officials for 20 years that they were paying their neighbour's water bill in addition to their own because both lines were connected to their meter. Freeman described how she and Crow had skimped on water by taking sponge baths and eating canned beans to avoid using water to wash fresh vegetables. The city finally relented in April and reimbursed them more than \$800. When Carson asked how they planned to spend the \$800, Freeman said they would buy a new stove and refrigerator. Carson then said he'd buy the appliances.

Writing on the sky for gays, lesbians

NEW YORK (AP) — Organisers of a march for homosexual rights announced Monday that they would use skywriting rather than balloons to call attention to AIDS. The release of 10,000 balloons had been planned for the gay and lesbian pride parade June 25, but conservation groups raised alarms about the dangers balloons, particularly metallic varieties, pose to ocean life. Balloons had been released in three previous marches, which have been staged as memorials to AIDS victims. Heritage of Pride Inc., organiser of the marches that instead of sending up balloons, an arch made of 2,000 balloons will be raised in front of the New York public library and five airplanes will spell out "We Remember" in the sky above

Beatle Bentley in 'sale of century'

NEW YORK (R) — John Lennon's psychedelic Bentley, a rare script of "Citizen Kane" and the figure-hugging costumes of transvestite film star Divine will go under the hammer this week at a huge auction of show-business relics. The 1956 Bentley S-1 is the "big ticket item" at the Christie's auction Wednesday — advertised as the celebrity trivia sale of the century. There is also considerable interest in 100 lots of Divine goods, as well as miscellaneous possessions of Elvis Presley, Babe Ruth, Humphrey Bogart and Marilyn Monroe. The Bentley is expected to fetch \$1 million and the "Citizen Kane" script \$900,000. The car was originally owned by the countess of Middleton, but it was Lennon who made it famous, commissioning a customised paint job, fitting out the interior with rugs and wood paneling for cruising around the swinging London of the late 60s. Painted orange, green, pink, lavender, maroon, yellow and blue, it was originally meant for all the Beatles as a touring car but Lennon adopted it for his personal use. He sold the car in 1968 and it has had several owners since. The "Citizen Kane" script is unique because it is bound together with a first draft of the script "America," the film's first working title. The story of publishing mogul Charles Foster Kane was based on the life of William Randolph Hearst and the script offered at the auction has notes along the margins and circled text by Hearst's lawyers, who objected to passages that too closely mirrored their employer's life.

Global weather

(major world cities)

	MIN.	MAX.	Weather
AMSTERDAM	16	27	81 Clear
ATHENS	16	30	86 Clear
BAHRAIN	28	36	97 Clear
BANGKOK	25	33	91 Clear
Buenos Aires	10	19	60 Cloudy
CAIRO	20	33	91 Clear
CHICAGO	15	28	82 Clear
COPENHAGEN	16	21	70 Clear
FRANKFURT	12	24	75 Clear
GENEVA	13	27	81 Clear
HONG KONG	26	29	84 Clear
ISTANBUL	15	24	75 Clear
LONDON	16	30	86 Clear
LOS ANGELES	18	28	82 Clear
MADRID	17	33	91 Cloudy
MECCA	28	36	97 Clear
MONTREAL	12	24	75 Clear
MOSCOW	17	26	79 Clear
NEW DELHI	25	38	100 Cloudy
NEW YORK	19	28	82 Cloudy
PARIS	18	24	75 Clear
ROME	11	22	82 Clear
TOKYO	15	21	70 Cloudy
VIENNA	12	24	75 Clear

European Parliament turns redder and greener

BRUSSELS (Agencies) — Socialist and environmentalist parties will try to use their good showings in the European Parliament elections to put more of a red and green stamp on European Community legislation.

Redder, because the Socialists gained 16 seats, bringing their total to 182 in the 518-seat assembly.

And greener because in most of the 12 European Community (EC) nations, people voted for ecology-conscious parties giving them 37 seats, a rise of 17.

But the elections, which were held Thursday and Sunday in the 12 nations, also yielded 22 seats for the extreme right, including six newcomers from West Germany.

The extreme right held 16 seats in the outgoing assembly. Voting was marked by a generally low turnout, indicating that the assembly is not in the forefront of many voters' minds.

In the exceptionally sunny, hot weather they seem to have preferred the beach to the polling booth.

EC-wide, the abstention level was a record 41.5 per cent. Analysts and politicians say the parliament is likely to step up pressure on the community to take more notice of the social and

environmental side-effects of its planned deregulated barrier-free market by the end of 1992.

"I think we are going to have a balanced parliament. The interesting development was the way the Green Party polled so well," said Lord Plumb, outgoing president of the parliament.

The Greens virtually doubled their share of seats amid fears the single market — designed to boost trade — would also increase pollution and environmental damage.

The parliament showed last month how to make the best of its limited powers when it forced EC ministers to adopt much stricter pollution controls for small cars than they had originally wanted.

Although the 518 new members will not take their seats in Strasbourg's parliament building until July 25, behind-the-scenes negotiating has already begun.

Unconfirmed reports here Monday night said the Socialists and Christian Democrats were considering a formal coalition to exclude the more extreme right-wing groupings.

Parliament sources said the two sides could come to an agreement on major issues like the sharing of the presidency and chairmanship of influential parliament committees.

One result of the swing to the left and any future pact between centre-right and left groupings will be more pressure for the single market to include social legislation, a notion which already finds favour with many Christian Democrats.

In a stunning result, Britain's opposition Labour Party not only trounced Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's conservatives but also replaced them as the largest single party in the European Parliament.

In another surprise, Britain's Greens received more than two million ballots, or 15 per cent of the vote. However, they will not get a single seat because Britain's electoral system, unlike those elsewhere in the EC, is not proportional.

Greens spokeswoman Jean Lambert said she was "extremely angry."

"What we are going to have to do is to find a compromise solution with our European Green partners, which we will do, to have some say in what happens there" in Strasbourg, she said.

The parliament holds its plenary sessions in Strasbourg, although its administrative headquarters are in Luxembourg and its committee meetings are held in Brussels.

Ortega seeks talks with Bush

MANAGUA (Agencies) — President Daniel Ortega is seeking talks with the administration of U.S. President George Bush to iron out Nicaragua's mounting problems with the U.S. and help pull the economy out of the nose-dive it is in.

Ortega announced the offer Monday after a 1½-hour meeting with Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo when he asked the Roman Catholic archbishop of Managua to carry a request for opening negotiations to Washington.

Obando y Bravo, a sharp critic of Ortega's Sandinista government, said he was "going to think about this and will give an answer," but refused to go into details.

The cardinal and Ortega, standing side by side, talked to reporters after the meeting.

The last time Nicaragua and the U.S. held talks to improve relations was in June 1984 in Manzanillo, Mexico, and they ended in deadlock, with the U.S. accusing the Sandinistas of failing to negotiate in good faith.

Obando y Bravo is also president of a national reconciliation committee set up to monitor Nicaragua's compliance with regional peace accords.

Ortega indicated a key objective of Obando y Bravo's mediation would be to seek the lifting of a U.S. trade embargo against Nicaragua imposed in 1985.

The embargo and contra war

have exacerbated an economic crisis in Nicaragua, which is suffering hyperinflation and falling production, economists say.

Obando y Bravo and other bishops have asked Bush to lift the embargo, saying it hurts ordinary Nicaraguans.

U.S. criticises visa rule

The United States Monday accused Nicaragua of trying to prevent any monitoring of its elections by requiring Americans to get visas from the government before entering the country.

The visa requirement had been dropped in 1985 but Managua reimposed it Saturday to prevent what Ortega termed abuse of



Daniel Ortega

hospitality by visiting Americans as his country prepares for elections in February 1990.

Huge, hurricane-like storm on Neptune

By Lee Siegel
The Associated Press

PASADENA, California — A giant spot roughly 10,000 kilometres wide has been discovered on the planet Neptune by the Voyager 2 space probe, scientists have reported.

"It's huge," said physicist Edward Stone, Voyager project scientist for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). "It would be reasonable to suspect this is a large, hurricane-like storm system similar to the great red spot" on Jupiter.

But Stone said Monday that Voyager 2 still was too far from Neptune to determine if winds are swirling within the spot. Jupiter's great red spot contains 400 kilometre-per-hour winds.

Scientists have not yet named Neptune's spot, but are calling it "the dark spot" because it appears darker than the surrounding blue-greenish atmosphere.

The colour of the spot isn't yet known because scientists haven't processed complete pictures through different colour filters, said Andrew Ingersoll, a planetary scientist at the California Institute of Technology.

Voyager 2 is hurtling at more than 67,600 kilometre-per-hour towards its Aug. 24 close encounter with Neptune.

At that time, the hardy spacecraft will zip within 4,830 kilometres of the gaseous planet's cloud tops — by far the closest of any of Voyager's planetary flybys.

Five hours later, it will fly within 40,230 kilometres of Triton, one of Neptune's two known moons.

The Neptune encounter will be Voyager 2's fourth and final planetary flyby since the probe was launched in 1977. It explored Jupiter in 1979, Saturn in 1981 and Uranus in 1986.

Neptune's dark spot is located at about 25 to 30 degrees latitude in the planet's southern hemisphere. Ingersoll said, adding that Voyager also discovered a much smaller, rapidly changing white spot — about half the size of the dark spot — at about 70 degrees south latitude.

Mary Beth Murrill, spokeswoman for NASA's jet propulsion laboratory, said Neptune's dark spot first was clearly recognised in still photographs taken by Voyager 2 in April.

It is not as large as Jupiter's great red spot, which is 25,000 kilometres across at its widest point — large enough to contain three earths.

Jupiter's great red spot was discovered more than 350 years ago. It is believed to be red because of organic chemicals, or possibly sulphur or phosphorus, trapped within it.

While hurricanes of Earth break up after a week or two, the storm in the great red spot has remained intact for centuries, Ingersoll said.

The absence of continents on giant gas planets like Jupiter and Neptune may explain the persistence of the spots, he said, adding that continents may help dissipate hurricanes on Earth.

Neptune is the solar system's fourth largest planet and usually is the eighth from the Sun. But because Pluto's elongated elliptical orbit sometimes brings it closer to the Sun, Neptune currently is the ninth and most distant planet from the Sun.



Margaret Thatcher

No quick Tory reshuffle

LONDON (R) — Aides to Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher have ruled out an immediate cabinet shuffle as Britain's ruling Conservatives counted the cost of a disastrous European election showing.

With all the results finally in Monday from Thursday's ballot, the opposition Labour party won 13 seats from the Conservatives in the Strasbourg parliament to reverse exactly the pre-poll standing of the two parties at 45-32.

But the government dismissed the results as "mid-term blues" and drew comfort from the fact they trailed Labour by just six percentage points, 40-34, in their share of the vote. Only 36 per cent of those eligible to do so voted, a poor turnout.

"We have been behind in the polls five to six per cent before. We will be able to recover that ground," said Employment Secretary Norman Fowler.

Amid widespread media speculation that heads were set to roll, notably that of party chairman Peter Brooke, a Thatcher aide said: "It would be very unwise to think there will be an early reshuffle."

Aides said changes to the cabinet line-up were likely in late July, as last year, or in September.

Newspaper reports Tuesday, however, said Thatcher was set to replace Brooke with Education Secretary Kenneth Baker — giving Baker the task of steering her to a fourth general election victory and possibly grooming him as a future Conservative leader.

Brooke and Thatcher have been attacked by some high-ranking Conservatives for running a desultory, negative and confused campaign.

The Conservatives' campaign was marked by open disagreement on key aspects of community social and economic policy between Thatcher and important figures within her own party such as former Prime Minister Edward Heath and Chancellor of the Exchequer Nigel Lawson.

Brooke and Thatcher held a quick post-mortem at Thatcher's 10 Downing Street office Monday morning but the aide said there were "no recriminations."

Thatcher sent a letter through Brooke to party workers expressing her "disappointment" and calling for greater efforts in future.

Former party chairman Norman Tebbit, one of the most influential Conservative voices, said the party's "disastrous" election advertising was "the worst in living memory."